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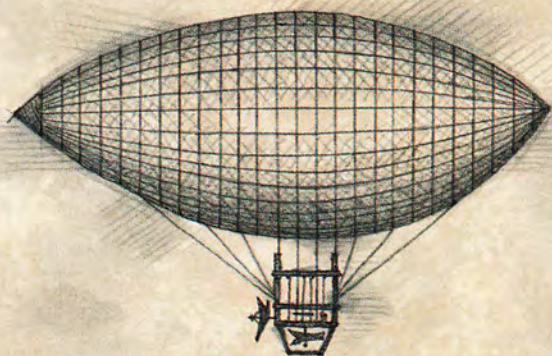




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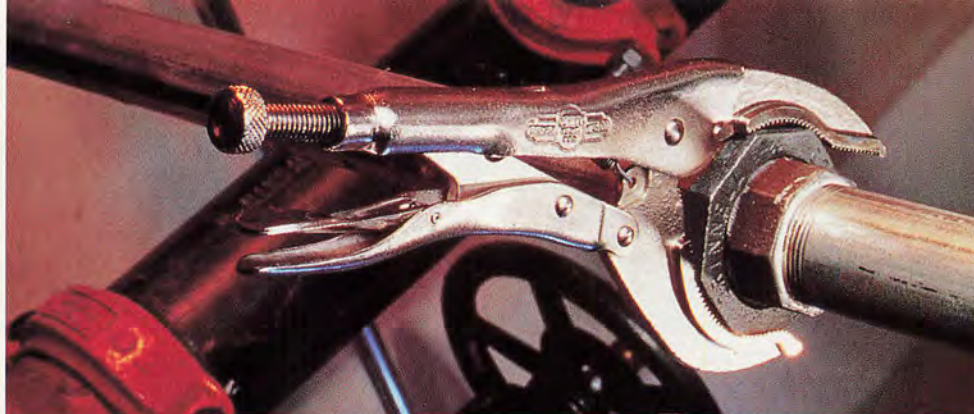
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This dinner menu was signed by the 1930 Notre Dame team en route by train to play USC. It was given to Athlon's senior editor later.

The proneness of us humans to frailties, such as breaking rules, is always present to mar the game of college football, especially in recent years. There's cheating in recruiting, abuse of drugs and alcohol, abuse of young women, gambling — to say nothing of poor sportsmanship.

Society should be getting a full stomach of all that. Sometimes encouraging steps address football's problems.

However, if we are clamping down on offenders with more persistence and severity than in the past, such efforts, lamentably, are weakened by the leniency and permissiveness that are products of the post-World War II era.

Sportsmanship has long been subordinated. It is terribly important, now more than ever, to instruct young athletes in the positive values of sportsmanship. Prominent representatives of major sports ought to make themselves available and stress respect, civility and propriety in competitive athletics. Young people should willingly regard themselves as role models.

When I was growing up, few athletes failed to answer a letter. College football players almost to a man accepted without question their responsibilities as role models. I still have letters from some written in the early 1930s while they were in school at Southern California, Colgate, Tulane and a few other institutions. I can't recall that any refused to reply. Nor did they ever ask to be compensated for an autograph in those days.

In my youth, sportsmanship meant to me exactly how the dictionary defines it: "conduct becoming to a sportsman . . . a good loser and a gracious winner," in short, treating one's opponent as you would be treated yourself.

For a long time, probably to his dying day, an early-century Dartmouth end named Paul "Red" Loudon carried a newspaper clipping in his wallet. It told about a game with Princeton in which he was knocked cold trying to tackle All-American halfback Hobe Baker. Loudon discovered in a New York City Sunday newspaper that he had been brought off the field unconscious in Baker's arms. That was 85 years ago. Baker, who shot down three German planes in 1918, crashed to his death in France on one last flight in his Spad. He had received his discharge orders about a month after Armistice Day.

The Waterman Pen Company sponsored an autograph contest in 1932. I submitted a neat album of 150 assorted names, ranging from Addams, Jane, to Zimmerman, Don, a Tulane halfback. The reviewer, in *The New Yorker* of Nov. 12, 1932, wrote that my album "ended up in a cloud of football and baseball players, including three of the Four Horsemen of Notre Dame."

The university in my hometown offered young boys and girls a chance to see football games free with a Knot-Hole Club card. It was punched at the appropriate date when you walked in at the stadium on a Saturday afternoon. Cold weather, even several inches of snow, couldn't keep you at home.

My dad took me to the first college football game I had ever seen when I was very young, possibly 6 or 7. A chilly wind almost blew your cap away but kids don't worry about the weather. I remember best about that game, after many decades, a fullback named Dave Noble. If anyone, chancing to read this, recalls that hard-running player who died a few years ago, I'll be surprised.

As time passed, I correlated that name, Noble, with football, a noble game. I read *The Three Musketeers*, stories about King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table, about the valor of Roland at Roncevalles and about the fearless Ivanhoe. Who didn't?

To me, football reincarnated those legendary, adventurous characters of literature, who showed their courage in the tournaments of the Middle Ages that constituted the sport of armed knights. I related football to the combative tournaments of times past — gripping, stirring and inspiring — with their clashes of fearless men. Come what may, I have never lost that affinity for the noble sport of today despite a different aura that surrounds it.

"Where better can lessons of integrity, loyalty and fair play be learned?" Dean Hill wrote in his *Football Through the Years* (1940).

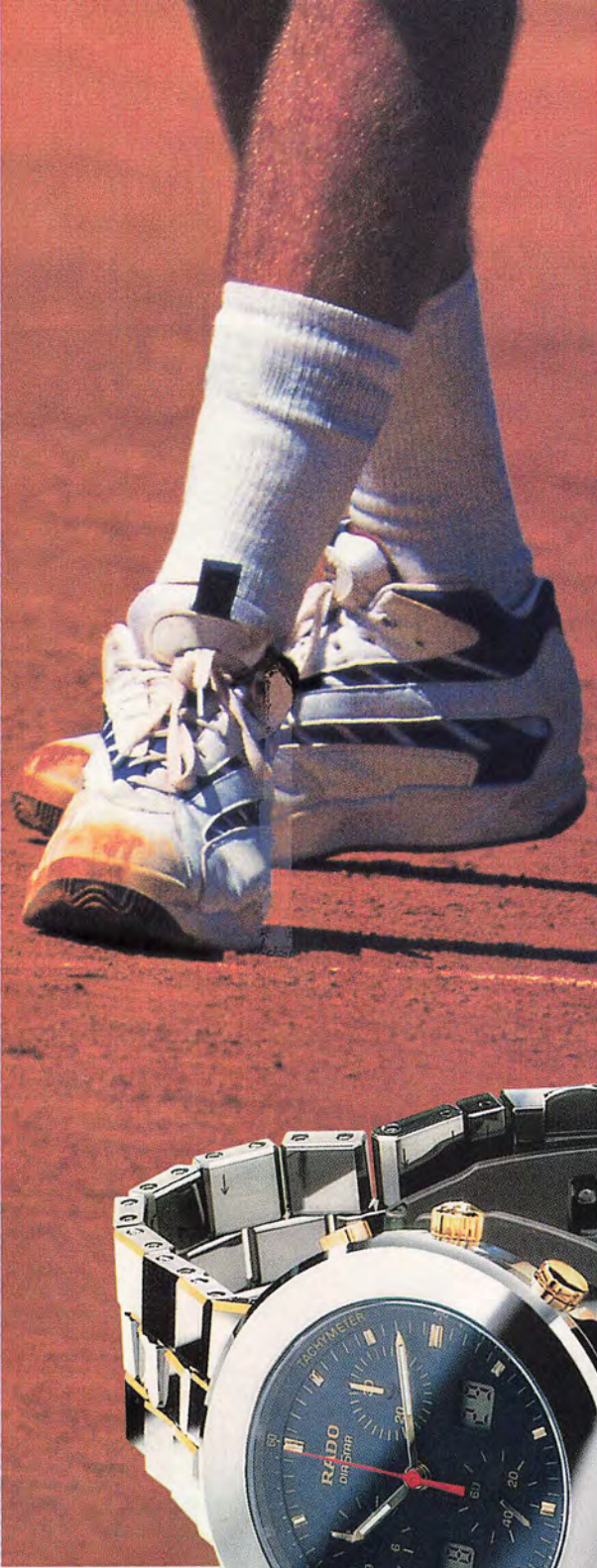
Those who endorse a program to teach athletes, coaches and officials about sportsmanship have the opportunity to make a significant impression on society.

In this 30th Anniversary issue of *Athlon Sports*, we strive to endorse programs excelling in sportsmanship. Over the past three decades, we have witnessed some great moments in this game. Unfortunately, there have been some ugly incidents as well. We relive the best and worst of the past 30 years with writer Jack Clary, beginning on page 58.

We held our own tournament featuring the greatest teams since 1967 to answer the question: Who was the best? Find out who won and read all about the tournament, starting on page 24.

We're excited to bring you this special 30th Anniversary edition. As always, we have in-depth analyses, rosters, predictions, schedules and everything else college football fans crave. This year we snuck a play out of each team's playbook to give you more insight. We'd like to hear from you, especially those who appreciate good sportsmanship. Call, write, fax or e-mail.

George Leonard



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12 Extra Points

Peyton Manning's mind-boggling decision, a complete scorecard of this year's coaching changes, incredible upsets of the year, Tom Osborne in the kitchen and more.

by Donnie Webb

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We've chosen the best 16 teams of the last 30 years and matched them up in a playoff you won't believe.

by Randy Horick

58 30 Years of Athlon Sports & College Football

Celebrate our 30th anniversary with a look back at college football's 10 greatest moments, 10 worst moments, most amazing plays, greatest games and bowl highlights.

by Jack Clary

148 Tailgating America: A Celebration of Friends, Fun, Food and Football

Here we visit four of America's most tradition-rich tailgating destinations, where the gathering before kickoff is as important as the game itself. We'll swap stories, trade recipes and meet fellow tailgaters who just may become friends for life.

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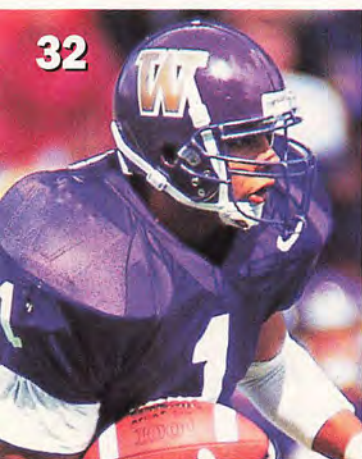
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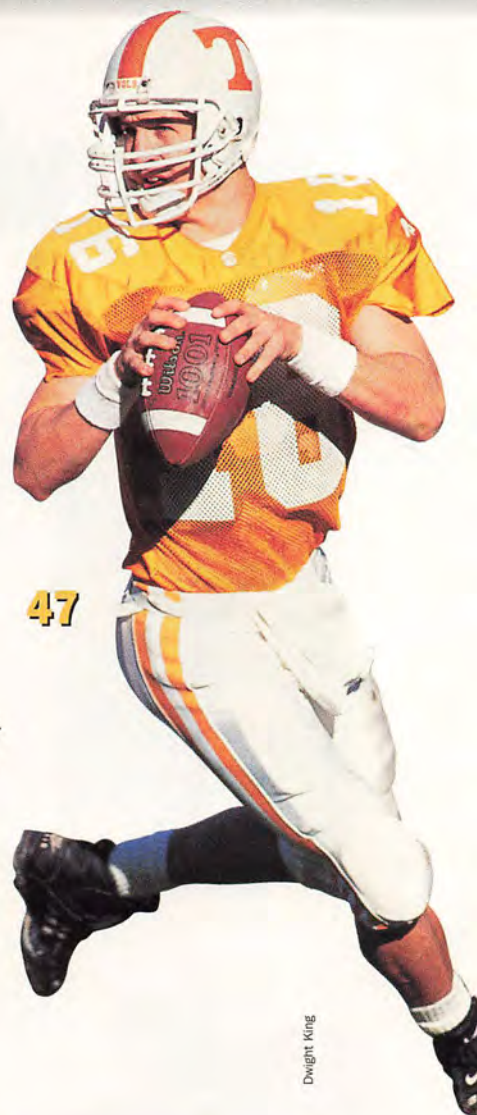
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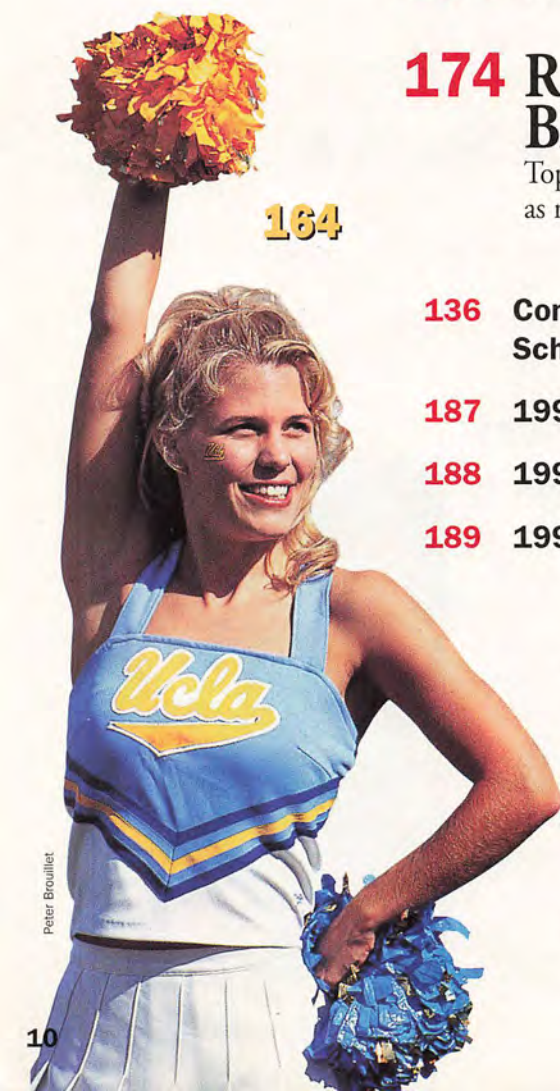
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Overtime?

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MOTOROLA

Extra Points

Another college football season is on tap, where expectations run high and the pressure rests squarely on the coaches' shoulders.

by Donnie Webb
Syracuse Post-Standard
illustrations by Paul Trap

Later, Eddie. Goodbye, Lou. Steve Mariucci left Cal knee-deep in doo. Adios Johnny. Farewell Gene. Nicely done. Here's the guillotine.

It's getting tougher and meaner out there on the streets of college football. And it's not just the defense at Florida. Heads are rolling because teams aren't bowling. Athletic directors, presidents, PSL holders, alumni, students, radio talk flacks and Internet dweebs are banging the drums louder and louder, demanding their teams feed heartily at the altar of the almighty bowl game.

This is what happens when the Northwesterns and Kansas States and Virginia Techs of the planet have shelf lives longer than a Richard Simmons infomercial. Parity has created a far more provocative playing field. It's given hope to every Toledo, Duke and Hawaii out there. If them, why not us? Pressure to win has never been greater.

Prior to last season's Sugar Bowl, Florida coach Steve Spurrier bumped into a table

displaying the national championship trophy, the one with the \$50,000 Waterford crystal football crafted by Irish artisans. It took a shoestring catch by one of the trophy's guardians to snare the orb and earn CNN's Play of the Day. (The trophy immediately complained about an excessive late hit.) Who will bump into this year's trophy?

It's a good question. So are these . . .

- Who will be this year's Northwestern? Who will be this year's Texas A&M? Maybe Ohio State? Auburn?

- Who'll be this year's Arizona State? How about North Carolina or Stanford?

- And who's on the hot seat? If you're a Division I coach, you already know the answer.

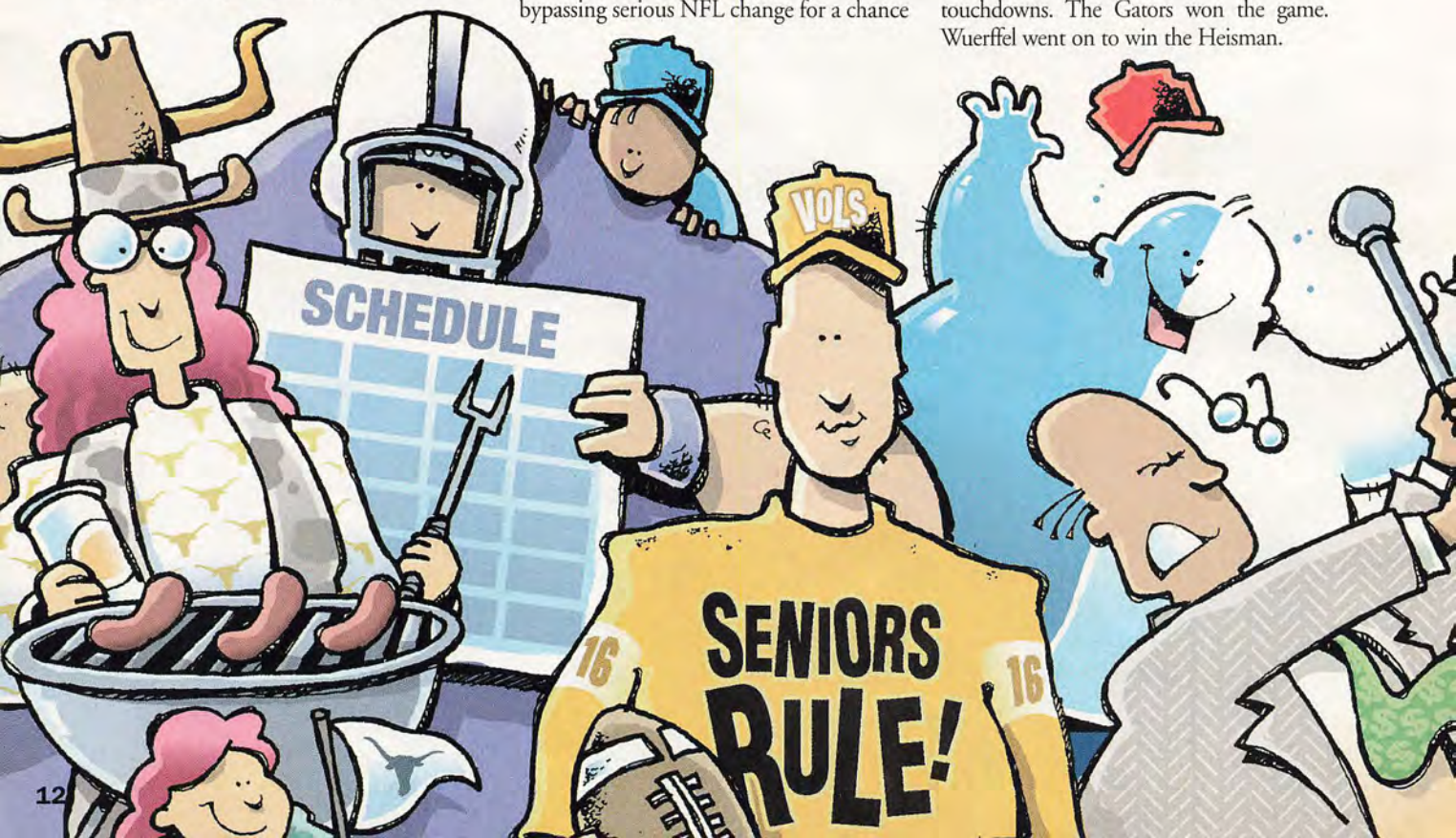
Manning Favors Orange Over Green

Peyton Manning is the man. They showed him the money and the senior quarterback showed them some chutzpa, bypassing serious NFL change for a chance

to fling a few more footballs at the University of Tennessee this fall. In an era of take the money and run, Manning's last stand in Knoxville is widely admired and applauded. Whatever his motives, Manning returns as the odds-on favorite to win college football's Heisman Trophy award. He's so far out in front that it might take another crash and burn against Florida for Manning to be denied a trip to the Downtown Athletic Club.

No Tennessee player has ever won the Heisman. Heath Shuler (1993), Johnny Majors (1956) and Hank Lauricella (1951) are Volunteers who finished second in the voting. Manning finished sixth in 1995 and eighth last season. He is the only returning player among last year's top ten finishers.

Manning pretty much played himself out of the Heisman picture in last year's early-season loss to Florida. Manning tossed four interceptions in the first half while Florida quarterback Danny Wuerffel tossed four touchdowns. The Gators won the game. Wuerffel went on to win the Heisman.



Heisman Hype

If Manning falters, the Heisman Trophy waiting room is crowded. Candidates include:

Ron Dayne	RB	Wisconsin
Donovan McNabb	QB	Syracuse
Ron Powilus	QB	Notre Dame
Ahman Green	RB	Nebraska
Chris Keldorf	QB	North Carolina
Skip Hicks	RB	UCLA
Ricky Williams	RB	Texas
James Brown	QB	Texas
Curtis Enis	RB	Penn State
Brock Howard	QB	Washington
Tim Dwight	WR/KR	Iowa
Kevin Faulk	RB	LSU

Never Too Old To Play

Florida fans will love this, but Manning can take some credit for talking a wayward quarterback into going back to Florida State (like the Seminoles need any more blue-chippers). Chris Weinke is a 24-year-old freshman who returns to Tallahassee some six years after walking away to take a swing at professional baseball.

He was a *Parade* and *USA TODAY* All-America

quarterback from St. Paul, Minn., who passed for nearly 4,000 yards during his high school career. Four days into his first August practice at Florida State, the Toronto Blue Jays waved a \$375,000 signing bonus that Weinke couldn't refuse. Weinke was a career .248 hitter in the Toronto farm system. He made it briefly to the SkyDome for two weeks in 1990 though he never got a big league at-bat. He toiled most recently as a first baseman for the Syracuse Chiefs, the Blue Jays AAA affiliate. But he was demoted to AA Knoxville to start the 1996 season after batting .226 in 1995.

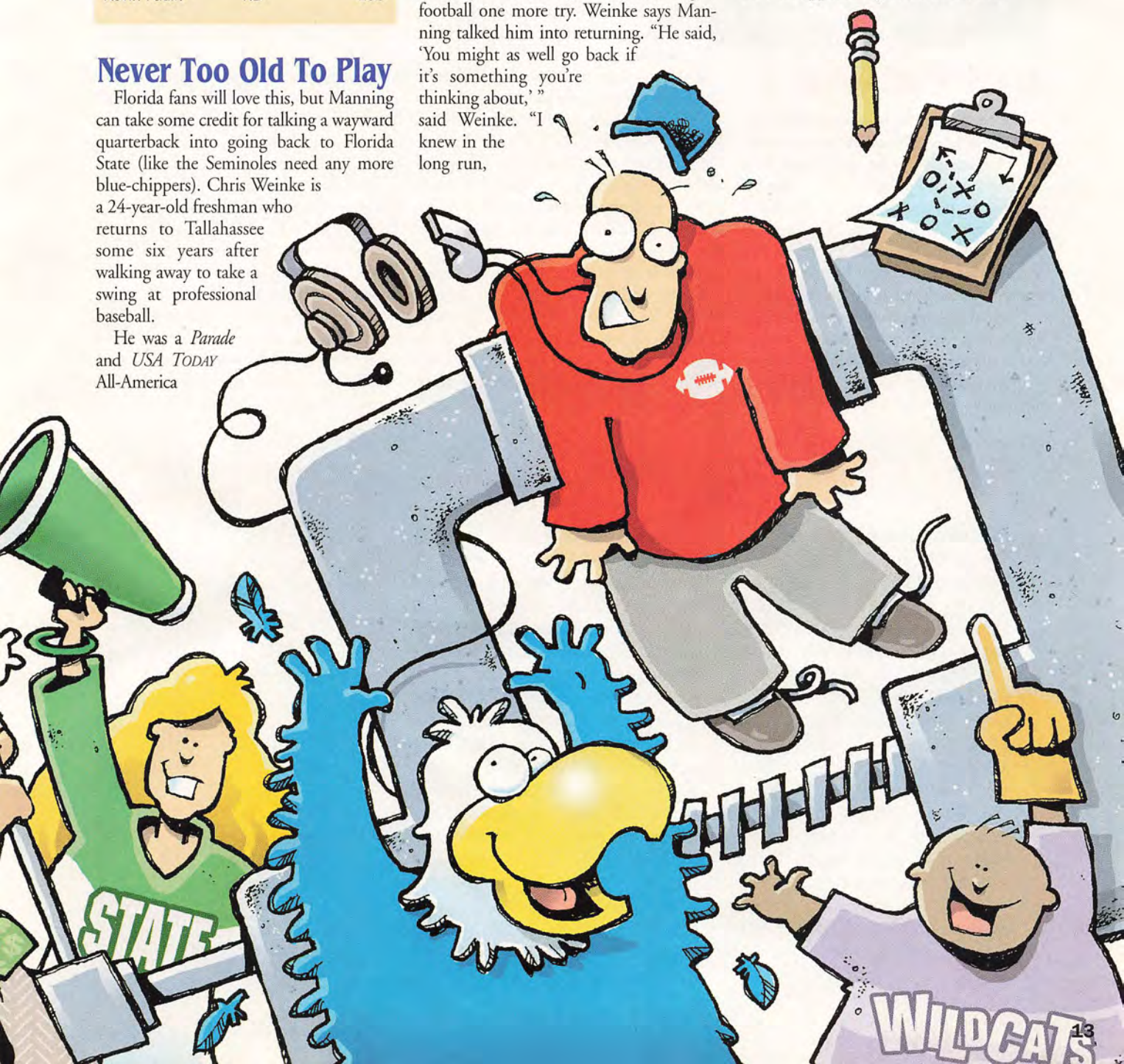
It was there that Weinke met Manning and began wondering if he shouldn't give football one more try. Weinke says Manning talked him into returning. "He said, 'You might as well go back if it's something you're thinking about,'" said Weinke. "I knew in the long run,

if I didn't go back, I'd wish I had."

Weinke has a receding hairline. He jokes it's from all those years of wearing baseball caps. He's also financially secure, having invested that signing bonus in various real estate holdings. He won't have to worry about springing for pizza and wings.

Despite his sabbatical, Weinke has retained his throwing skills and is hopeful of pushing Thad Busby, Dan Kendra and Marcus Outzen in the Florida State backfield.

"Coach (Bobby) Bowden has been up front with me from the first day I ever talked to him," says Weinke. "He said, 'the best man's going to play.' So I know I'll have an opportunity to be in the mix."





Tom Tirado

LOVE COACH

The airwaves in Houston crackle these days with talk of love, relationships and the resurgent Cougars, often in the same breath. University of Houston head coach Kim Helton has another gig, this one as the city's improbable radio-therapist on KRBE-FM. He is the "Love Coach." With a crusty voice and no-baloney tact, Helton works the phone lines for 45 minutes on Fridays before Cougar home games.

Houstonians aren't bashful about revealing the private parts of their lives. And Helton isn't coy about offering his slant on their problems.

"Love Coach, my husband is cheating on me," says a caller.

"Do you think he's cheating on you or do you know he's cheating on you?" asks Helton.

"I know he is."

"Dump him," says Helton. "Tell him if he wants someone else, then you're going to trade upward and get someone better."

Kickoff Classic XV

This season's clash features Wisconsin and Syracuse, two teams with marvelous offensive stars. Badgers running back Ron Dayne and Syracuse quarterback Donovan McNabb are the main reasons their teams will meet Aug. 24 at Giants Stadium. This game craves stars and Dayne and McNabb are two of college football's rising comets.

It's always been that way for the Kickoff Classic. Three times the game has had players go on and win the Heisman — Mike Rozier of Nebraska (1983), Charlie Ward of Florida State (1993) and Eddie George of Ohio State (1995). Other future Heisman winners who appeared include Vinny Testaverde of Miami and Bo Jackson of Auburn.

The Classic has served as a launch pad for two national championship runs. Florida State (1993) and Nebraska (1994) both won their openers in East Rutherford on their way to earning Bobby Bowden and Tom Osborne their first title rings.

Bottom Line Business

Coaching in a big-business environment like college football is ripe for high pressure and hot seats. Who needs to win this year?

How about Mississippi State's Jackie Sherrill? Despite winning two of their last three by beating Alabama and Ole Miss, the floundering Bulldogs finished 5-6. Starkville is growing ever restless.

USC's John Robinson and athletic director Mike Garrett have a combustible relationship that seems close to blowing up. The Trojans probably saved Robinson's job by finally beating Notre Dame to end a disappointing 6-6 season. They need more wins like that to keep their legendary coach on the sidelines.

North Carolina State tried desperately last winter to soften its non-conference schedule, but it may be too late for head coach Mike O'Cain. The Wolfpack is coming off a 3-8 season in which it surrendered 401 points, including 50 in a season-ending loss to East Carolina. Ouch.

Then there are high-profile coaches like Michigan's Lloyd Carr, Arizona's Dick Tomey, Texas A&M's R.C. Slocum and Tennessee's Phillip Fulmer, whose teams stumbled last season when much more was expected. The Wolverines, Aggies and Vols all lost games they should have won. Arizona got waylaid by Arizona State, whose dramatic turnaround surely irked a few backers in Tucson. And now that Lute Olson has his national championship, more will be expected of Tomey.

Can't Win 'Em All, Bobby

One of college football's gaudiest streaks came to a halt in the Louisiana Superdome last January. And it wasn't Steve Spurrier's failure to win the big one. Florida State's reign as bowl czar ended with Florida's 52-20 win over the Seminoles in the 1997 Sugar Bowl. It was Florida State's first bowl loss since the 1981 Orange Bowl, 16 bowls ago. Following their 17-17 tie with Georgia in the 1984 Citrus Bowl, the Seminoles strung together an NCAA record 11 consecutive bowl victories.

Making Florida State's streak extraordinary is that from 1987 through 1996, the Seminoles

played in either the Fiesta, Cotton, Orange or Sugar bowls in every year but one. If you need some context, consider that Alabama leads all colleges with 48 bowl appearances but has never been able to win more than six straight. Penn State has won 21-of-33 bowl dates but never more than five in a row. USC once won nine straight bowl games, but that occurred between 1923 and 1945. The Trojans would settle for a bowl date of any kind these days. The baton has been passed to Syracuse, who defeated Houston in the 1996 Liberty Bowl for their seventh straight bowl win.

Most Consecutive Bowl Game Victories

11	Florida State	1985-96
9	USC	1923-45
8	UCLA	1983-91
8	Georgia Tech	1947-56
7	Syracuse	1989-96
6	Alabama	1975-81
6	Nebraska	1969-74
5	Notre Dame	1973-79
5	Arizona State	1970-75

Most Consecutive Seasons With Bowl Wins

11	Florida State	1985-95
7	UCLA	1982-88
6	Alabama	1974-80
6	Nebraska	1969-73



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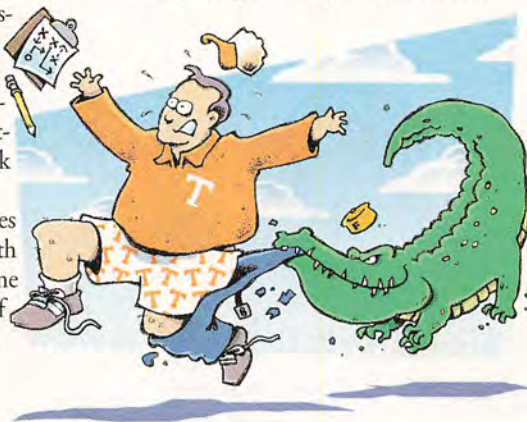
Rocky Ride on Rocky Top

Things are getting a bit craggy for Phillip Fulmer in Rocky Top. Despite his popularity with fans and players, how many losses to Florida will 106,000 paying customers endure? Throw in last year's inexplicable loss to Memphis, a near-death experience with Vanderbilt and yet another trip to the Citrus Bowl, and the kettle boils thick with uncertainty.

It used to be Tennessee coaches were judged on their games with Alabama. Fulmer's been there, done that. Florida is the problem now. If he can't do it with Peyton Man-

ning, Tennessee fans are left to wonder if he can do it at all.

This year's game is Sept. 20 in Gainesville.



Job Insecurity

It was the year of looking over your shoulder in the coaching profession. Athletic directors and presidents issued pink slips and AARP applications to head coaches as if they were fast food coupons.

Two dozen head coaches, representing nearly a fourth of all Division I-A schools, lost their jobs last season. The bloodletting covered the spectrum of coaches and underscores the pressure to win now and win big.

It was a year that saw three of the game's biggest names resign — or be ushered out the back door. Notre Dame's Lou Holtz, Alabama's Gene Stallings and Pittsburgh's Johnny Majors left under less than happy circumstances.

In case you're keeping score, here's a list of the coaching changes from last season:

SCHOOL	FORMER COACH	REPLACEMENT
SAN JOSE STATE	JOHN RALSTON	DAVE BALDWIN
FRESNO STATE	JIM SWEENEY	PAT HILL
KENTUCKY	BILL CURRY	HAL MUMME
INDIANA	BILL MALLORY	CAM CAMERON
PURDUE	JIM COLLETTA	JOE TILLER
WESTERN MICHIGAN	AL MOLDE	GARY DARNELL
ILLINOIS	LOU TEPPER	RON TURNER
MINNESOTA	JIM WACKER	GLEN MASON
NEW MEXICO STATE	JIM HESS	TONY SAMUEL
ARKANSAS STATE	JOHN BOBO	JOE HOLLIS
NOTRE DAME	LOU HOLTZ	BOB DAVIE
TULANE	BUDDY TEEVENS	TOMMY BOWDEN
BAYLOR	CHUCK REEDY	DAVE ROBERTS
ALABAMA	GENE STALLINGS	MIKE DUBOSE
WYOMING	JOE TILLER	DANA DIMEL
PITTSBURGH	JOHN MAJORS	WALT HARRIS
MARYLAND	MARK DUFFNER	RON VANDERLINDEN
SMU	TOM ROSSLEY	MIKE CAVAN
BOSTON COLLEGE	DAN HENNING	TOM O'BRIEN
OREGON STATE	JERRY PETTIBONE	MIKE RILEY
BOISE STATE	POKEY ALLEN	HOUSTON NUTT
VANDERBILT	ROD DOWHOWER	WOODY WIDENHOFER
KANSAS	GLEN MASON	TERRY ALLEN
CALIFORNIA	STEVE MARIUCCI	TOM HOLMOE

And Tommy Makes Three

There seems to be no stopping the Bowden Clan. Like kudzu, they're covering the Gulf Coast.

Tulane is the latest school to dip into the Bowden gene pool in search of some family voodoo (hey, it's New Orleans). Tommy Bowden is the school's 35th head coach. He takes over a moribund program that hasn't had a winning record since 1981.

It's the first head coaching job for Tommy, who worked previously as offensive coordinator at Auburn. The head coach there is Terry Bowden, Tommy's younger brother. Their father is Bobby Bowden, who begins his 22nd season at Florida State. Together, the Bowdens form what a Tulane official said is the first threesome from the same immediate family to hold head coaching jobs simultaneously in Division I.

Tulane has already learned the kind of clout the Bowden name brings. Just the whiff of another Bowden in New Orleans apparently gave Florida coach Steve Spurrier the heebie-jeebies last December. In the past, the Gators have practiced at Tulane for their Sugar Bowl games. But with Tommy Bowden in place at Tulane, the Gators promptly waddled over to the Saints' practice facilities.

The Bowdens might not be finished. Jeff Bowden begins his fourth season as receivers coach at Florida State.



From left to right: Tulane coach Tommy Bowden, Florida State receivers coach Jeff Bowden, Florida State coach Bobby Bowden and Auburn coach Terry Bowden.

Phil Coale



Fired Up in South Bend

There's a new coach (Bob Davie), an old quarterback (Ron Powlus) and the addition of 20,000 new seats at cramped old Notre Dame Stadium. Despite NBC's best efforts to turn college football's holiest site into a television studio (the network even paid \$600,000 for permanent lights this year), the demand for Notre Dame tickets remains crushing. There hasn't been a walk-up ticket sold since 1964. The Irish have played to sellouts in 178 of their last 179 games including 130 straight. Unless you have Vatican connections, forget it. Generations of alumni and fans begged for relief.

The school finally acquiesced and enlarged the stadium for the first time since Knute Rockne opened the doors in 1930. The stadium's capacity will be around 81,000. No longer will spillover fans sit in chairs along the field. Even those rows behind the benches with perfect views of all those black cleats have been eliminated. There's a new press box and fan-friendly amenities like working bathrooms and concession stands.

The biggest news — for those lucky enough to sit in the 20 additional rows ringing the stadium top — is the size of the seats. Fans will be treated to an extra inch of seat width and a whopping six extra inches of leg room. Ooh-la-la.

Says Notre Dame Sports Information Director John Heisler over the excitement surrounding the Sept. 6 home opener against Georgia Tech, "New head coach and a new stadium, like, how much more does anybody want?"

TYING ONE ON

For all the moaning and grumbling before last season from college coaches, the new tie-breaker rule was a gas-gas-gas. There were 26 Division I games that ended regulation in ties, double the number from the previous season. Two went four overtimes and three more went for three extra periods.

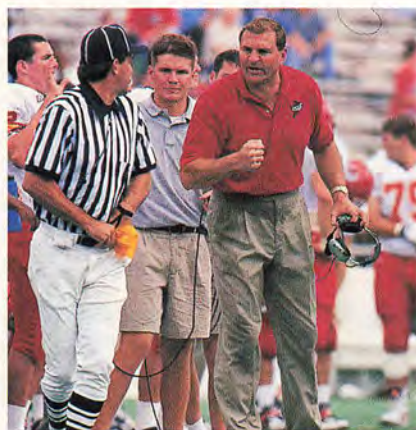
The Pac-10 Conference led all leagues for tying one on. Eight games ended in ties, highlighted by California's 56-55 victory over Arizona in four overtimes. The game ended when Wildcats coach Dick Tomey tried stopping the torture with a fake two-point conversion. It failed. The Bears ended up in a bowl. The Wildcats stayed home.

The other four overtime game involved Georgia and Auburn. The Bulldogs won that one 56-49 after being tied 28-28 at the end of regulation. It surely must have pained former Auburn coach Pat Dye, who used to play for ties because he liked having three digits and two dashes on his record.

Bonehead move of the year goes to Iowa State in its overtime game with Wyoming. The Cyclones were the only team to win a coin flip and opt to go on

offense first. An NCAA spokesman said Iowa State didn't understand the rule. It goes without saying, but the Cyclones lost the game.

The emotional and physical stress of playing multiple overtimes caused the rules committee to alter the rule for this season. After two overtime periods, teams must now attempt the two-point conversion after touchdowns.



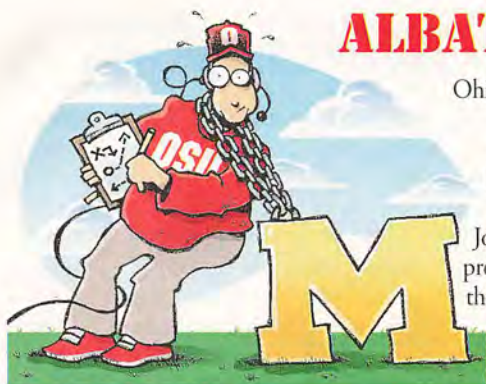
Iowa State coach Dan McCarney wasn't quite ready for overtime.

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ALBATROSS AGONY

Ohio State coach John Cooper stomped around the Rose Bowl taunting his critics after the Buckeyes' miraculous win over Arizona State. "Who said we can't win the big one?" Big John demanded. Folks in Michigan probably laughed until they were blue in the face over that one.

Cooper's 1-7-1 mark against the Wolverines is infamous and the reason he is captain of this year's All-Albatross team. Last year's loss to Michigan at the big horseshoe will take a long time to live down. But Cooper's got plenty of company.

Syracuse head coach Paul Pasqualoni is 0-5 against Miami. West Virginia's Don Nehlen is 0-6 in bowl games since 1984. Kansas and Kansas State are both 0-28 vs. Nebraska. Georgia and Tennessee vs. Steve Spurrier: The Dawgs are 0-7, the Vols are 2-5. Notre Dame has beaten Navy 33 consecutive seasons. Iowa has thumped Iowa State 14 straight.

Lowly Times at The Heights

Tom Coughlin rebuilt the Boston College program into a national power. It took less than three seasons for it to nearly be destroyed.

The 1996 season at The Heights was an ugly, disheartening sideshow. It began with quarterback Matt Hasselbeck slamming coach Dan Henning in the preseason. It festered during an embarrassing Thursday night loss to Pittsburgh on ESPN. And it erupted when a gambling scandal rocked the program as 13 Boston College players were accused of betting on their sport. Worse, two Eagles bet against their own team in a 45-17 loss to Syracuse.

It was a sorry, shameful episode that led to the dismissal of four players from school and the arrest of campus bookies. Henning resigned though he was clearly forced out. Former Virginia offensive coordinator Tom O'Brien was hired to pick up the pieces and repair the school's battered image.

As expected, his late start in recruiting led to what analysts have referred to as a "bleak" recruiting class. The Eagles return 18 starters, but their sins of 1996 may be punished for years to come.

Travel Agent Delight

San Diego State might have the nation's best weather, but it's got the coldest schedule makers. How's this for a five-game appetizer: The Aztecs open on a Friday at home against Navy, which has a flotilla of supporters in the neighborhood; then comes four straight road games against Washington, Wisconsin, Air Force and Arizona. On top of that, the Aztecs break in a new quarterback while trying to overcome the emotional baggage of last year's demoralizing loss to UNLV.

Hangin' Ten

Speaking of the Aztecs, All-WAC offensive tackle Kyle Turley, a 6-6, 305-pound Outland candidate, has experience in rough water situations. He's a surfer, a dude, a guy who craves the waves of the Pacific. And he's originally from that noted surfing mecca of Provo, Utah. Along Muscle Beach, Turley turns some heads. He bench presses 400 pounds, leg presses 1,300 and power cleans 355. That's some serious sun block.



THE LEAST OF THE EAST

The Big East Conference has three of the lousiest teams in the country at the moment in Rutgers, Pittsburgh and Temple. It's enough of a concern that the worst offender in the bunch — that would be Temple — has been put on notice by the league to shape up or be shipped out.

In what amounts to being placed on double-secret probation, Temple must now meet criteria for membership that has been established by the Big East members. The league won't reveal the guidelines, but they're believed to include issues such as stadium location and priority, attendance and performance.

The Owls might be the most unloved team in America. They attract crowds (or more appropriately, gatherings) of less than 5,000 for home games at cavernous Veterans Stadium in Philadelphia. The only students that show up are in the band or dressed as cheer-

Upsets of the Year

FIFTH PRIZE

Minnesota 35, Syracuse 33

Hysterical Metrodome announcer kept bellowing, "Can you believe it?! Can you believe it?!"

FOURTH PRIZE

SW Louisiana 29, Texas A&M 22

Prompted many Aggie students to actually look up Lafayette, La., in the library atlas.

THIRD PRIZE

Air Force 20, Notre Dame 17

Irish played like they were in the wild blue yonder. Falcons celebrated by studying all the way home on charter.

SECOND PRIZE

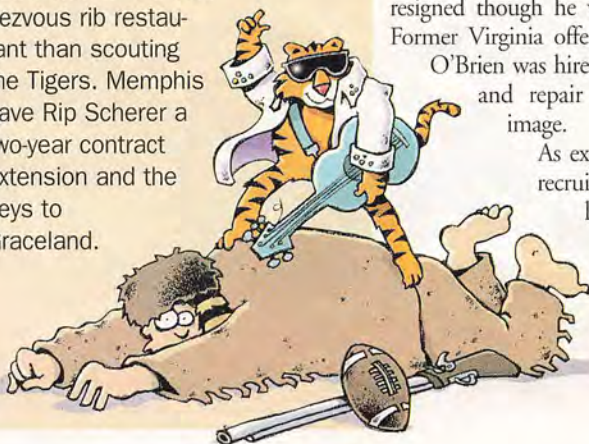
Wake Forest 28, Northwestern 27

A couple of years ago, no one could have cared less. Gary Barnett's name was temporarily removed from the list of future open coaching positions.

FIRST PRIZE

Memphis 21, Tennessee 17

Phillip Fulmer obviously spent more time at the Rendezvous rib restaurant than scouting the Tigers. Memphis gave Rip Scherer a two-year contract extension and the keys to Graceland.



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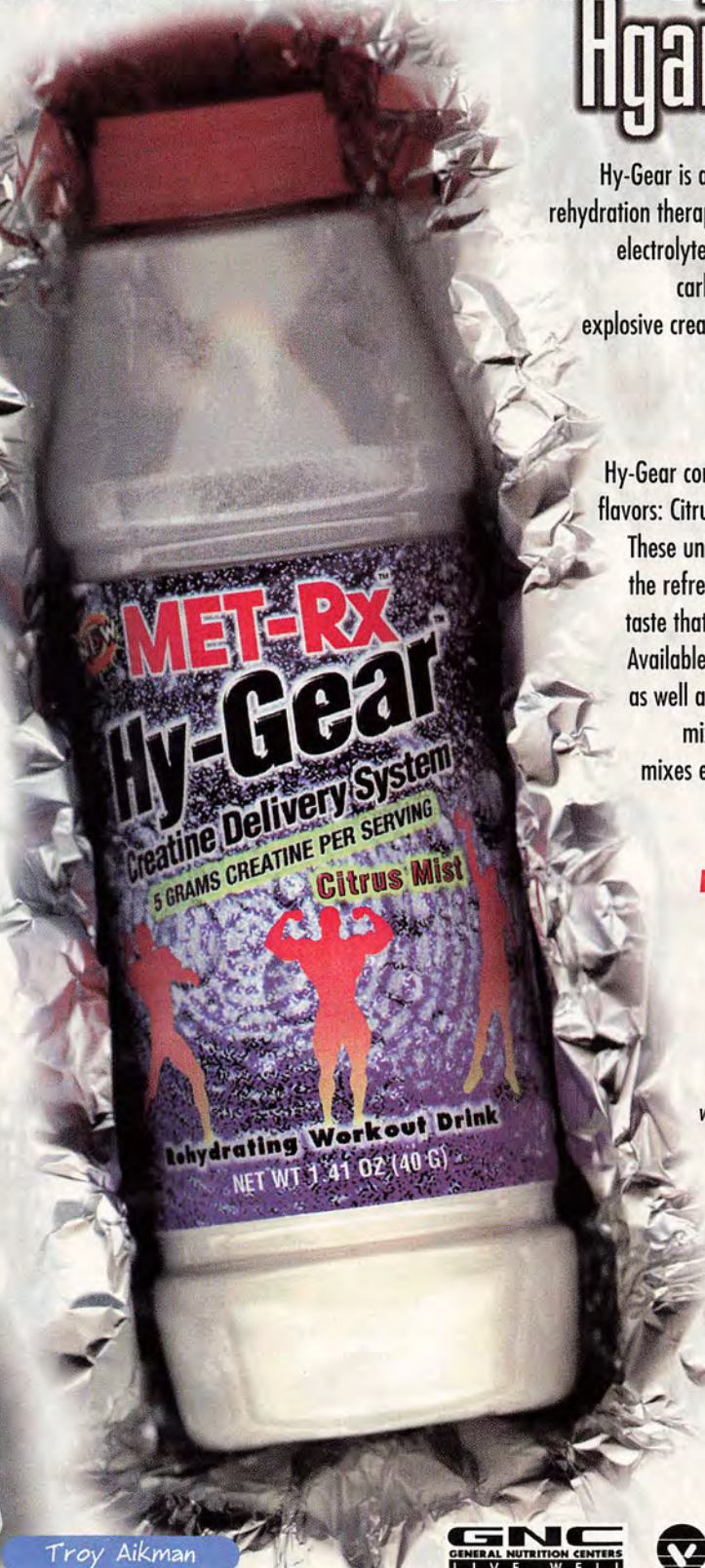
Positive health requires a knowledge of man's primary constitution and the powers of various foods, both those natural to them and those resulting from human skill. But eating alone is not enough for health. There must also be exercise, of which the effects must likewise be known. The combination of these two things makes regimen.

Hippocrates



Troy Aikman

3-Time World Champion
All-Pro Quarterback
Dallas Cowboys



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leaders. The ushers and press box attendants usually outnumber those scattered about the lower concourse. It's embarrassing.

Equally embarrassing is Temple's play. The Owls are 1-38 in Big East play since the league's inception in 1991. Coach Ron Dickerson is 5-39 in four seasons. He was so discouraged after a loss to Pitt last season that he announced his resignation immediately after the game. He changed his mind. But the prevailing thought around the league is if Dickerson can't salvage the program, it can't be salvaged.

Connecticut is gearing up to take Temple's place in the Big East. The I-AA Huskies are taking advantage of a Big East grandfather clause and must inform the league by the end of the year of their intentions. Southeastern Conference commissioner Roy Kramer was hired as a consultant by UConn. He recommended the Huskies move up in a heartbeat and devised a plan to gradually bring the program up to speed by the year 2002. The biggest issue for UConn is a new stadium. A bigger issue for the Big East is the potential for another struggling program.

HOME COOKING

Nebraska coach Tom Osborne is always cooking up new plays. He's also shaking-and-baking in a new cookbook. Osborne's recipe for coconut pecan cake can be found on page 93 of a 336-page cookbook called *Winning Seasons*.

The recipe doesn't call for beating eggs to a pulp like beating Oklahoma. And surprisingly, there aren't any corn products. But it includes a note from Tom and wife Nancy on how to alter the recipe to cut down on calories. "This is not fat free!" warns the note.

The cookbook was compiled by members of the American Football Coaches Wives Association. It's proceeds go to children's hospitals. And while most of the

recipes in the book are from wives, there are a handful of coaches who venture in from the kitchen.

There's chili-chicken stew from Gary Barnett of Northwestern, linguine with clam sauce from Paul Pasqualoni at Syracuse, Hopping John from Fisher DeBerry of Air Force, and for the adventurous, there's fried quail with sausage and oyster cream from Mike O'Cain of North Carolina State.

One of the requirements for appearing in the book is that the coaches had to make the dish. Osborne said he probably ran a trick play on that one.

"I don't think I've ever baked a cake in my life," says Osborne. "I've eaten some."

The book is \$19.95 and can be ordered by calling 1-888-AD-CRAFT.



Three Times Luckie

Mike Luckie, Miles Luckie and Dustin Luckie enter their sophomore seasons as members of the Georgia Bulldogs. No one is happier that the triplets are together in Athens than their mother, Wendy. It's not that she doesn't miss her sons. It's just that she doesn't miss them during her visits to the local grocery store in Stone Mountain.

Mike and Dustin are linebackers. Miles is an offensive linemen. Hunker down takes on a whole new meaning around dinner time in the Luckie home.

"When each of you signed the letters of intent," said Wendy, "it was like someone giving me \$125,000 for each of you."

Mike started one game as a redshirt freshman and should be a chief contributor this season. His facial features and size are almost identical to that of Dustin. Miles weighs about 35 pounds more but has the Luckie look of his brothers. It's hard enough telling them apart in person. It's not so easy on Saturdays, either. Mike wears No. 53, Miles No. 59 and Dustin No. 50.

The Luckies are not the first triplets to play college football. Between 1975-78, the Detzi brothers — Joe, Jeff and John — played at East Stroudsburg (Pa.) University.

It's trendy to be called "Slash" these days. There's that mop-top guy in Guns 'N' Roses. And there's former Colorado Buffalo quarterback Kordell Stewart, who popularized the nickname as a versatile member of the Pittsburgh Steelers. But the guy who epitomizes the word is University of Georgia senior Hines Ward.

Ward has played tailback, quarterback and wide receiver during his Georgia career. He mostly lines up as a receiver these days, but is maneuverable and important enough that Georgia coaches still get him the ball out of the shotgun or on a reverse. In essence, Ward is a wide receiver/quarterback/tailback/kick returner.

Now that's serious slashness. Ward has a legitimate shot at becoming the first player in NCAA history to finish with more than 1,000 career yards in three different categories: rushing (843), passing (889) and receiving (1,250). Ward even has a chance at a fourth 1,000-yard barrier, returning kicks. He currently stands at 587 career return yards. He'll need to average about 38 yards a game to hit 1,000.

"By far, he's the most versatile player I've ever coached," says Georgia coach Jim Donnan. "There's nothing you can ask Hines to do that he's not willing to do and can do."

The versatile Hines Ward: passing, rushing, receiving.



James D. Smith

Mike Moore

Mike Moore



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"Tickets, Tickets. Who Needs a Pair?"



The Bowl Alliance was supposed to resolve the national championship debate and quiet the grumbling for a playoff. After two years, the alliance has pretty much delivered what it promised. Nebraska and Florida won their national championships the last two seasons without much squawking, at least outside of Utah.

The Orange Bowl hosts this year's national championship game in the final year of the current alliance. In 1998, the Super Alliance goes into effect with the Rose Bowl joining the fold. Only then will a No. 1 vs. No. 2 game have its best chance — depending on the polls — of being a reality.

The alliance deals have been a financial godsend to the teams and conferences involved. That's why the WAC is fighting so hard to get its champion into one of those \$8.5 million alliance games. At the same time, bowls are watching with horror the growing chasms of empty seats at their stadiums.

Attendance for the 18 Division I-A bowl games last season failed to top one million for only the second time since 1989. The average bowl attendance of 54,738 ranked as the 14th worst since 1950. Outside the Cotton, Rose and Sugar bowls, attendance last year was noticeably thinner everywhere. The Orange Bowl game between Nebraska and Virginia Tech drew just 51,212, its lowest attended game since 1948. Nebraska fans bought less than 10,000 tickets with even fewer making the trip to Miami.

There were nearly 50,000 in Memphis to see the Liberty Bowl game between Syracuse and Houston, but both schools gave tickets away to students. Houston went one step further, offering free bus transportation.

The Gator Bowl illustrated the jittery nature of bowls last year when it invited West Virginia as its Big East representative instead of co-champs Miami or Syracuse. The Mountaineers finished fourth in the Big East and lost three of their last four including home games to Miami and Syracuse. West Virginia sold 20,000 tickets but lost to North Carolina, its fourth loss in five games and sixth bowl loss in a row.

Compounding the problem are the league tie-ins with bowls in which some teams are wearing out their welcome. Tennessee has been to the Citrus Bowl three of the last four years. Nebraska has been to the Orange Bowl five of the last six. Florida's been to the Sugar three of the last four. The Orange had Florida State three of the last four prior to last year.

One suggestion being floated around is for the non-alliance bowls to swap their tie-ins. For instance, the Gator and Citrus might exchange teams so that the Big East and ACC runners-up play in Orlando at the Citrus, while the No. 2 SEC and Big Ten teams play in Jacksonville. The idea is that teams will visit new cities each year, which theoretically would be more appealing to fans. The change of scenery might lure fans onto the highways again. ■

Mark Your Calendar

Games that will affect the polls this season.

Sept. 6

Florida State at USC

Sept. 13

Stanford at North Carolina
Colorado at Michigan

Sept. 20

Florida State at Clemson
Tennessee at Florida
Nebraska at Washington
Auburn at LSU

Sept. 27

Notre Dame at Michigan

Oct. 4

Miami at Florida State
Texas A&M at Colorado
Notre Dame at Stanford

Oct. 11

Ohio State at Penn State
Florida at LSU

Oct. 18

Florida at Auburn
Tennessee at Alabama
USC at Notre Dame

Oct. 25

Colorado at Texas

Nov. 8

Florida State at North Carolina
Michigan at Penn State
LSU at Alabama

Nov. 15

North Carolina at Clemson
Notre Dame at LSU

Nov. 22

Florida State at Florida
Ohio State at Michigan
Alabama at Auburn

Nov. 28

Nebraska at Colorado
Texas at Texas A&M

Nov. 29

Syracuse at Miami

Dec. 6

SEC Championship Game
WAC Championship Game
Big 12 Championship Game

Sweet Lou

Just how loveable was Lou Holtz at Notre Dame? The circumstances surrounding his exit remain murky, but that didn't stop a host of folks from roasting Holtz at a benefit last spring in South Bend. Nothing was sacred and Holtz was teased mercilessly about everything from his hair to his lisp to his wardrobe.

"Many times in print, I'd read that Gerry Faust was the losingest coach at Notre Dame," said Faust, who was fired to make way for Holtz after the 1985 season. "Lou, being my friend, has taken that distinction away from me. But Lou, why did you have to take so long?"

It's true. Holtz leaves Notre Dame with 30 losses, four more than Faust. He also leaves with 100 wins, which are only five fewer than Knute Rockne. President Clinton, who knows Holtz from their days together in Arkansas, even chimed in by inviting Holtz to stop by to play some football at the White House. "I miss talking to you," said Clinton. "Besides, I'd enjoy the weight and size advantage."

Holtz did strike back. He saved his best line for his old sparring partners in the media. "If I had one life to give," said Holtz, "it would probably be someone's in the news media."

Be careful, Lou. You're one of us, now.



For safety sake – don't operate the TV in the front seat.

**Tie score. Three seconds left.
Game on the line. And where are you?**



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by Randy Horick

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When the dust cleared, 16 teams emerged — the 16 greatest, highest-octane, in-your-facest, most dominating squads from 1967, the year *Athlon Sports* was born, through 1996. All of our teams were national champions. Combined, their record was 189–4. Collectively, they outscored their opponents 6,811 to 2,154.

For the sake of diversity, we imposed an artificial restriction: one team per school. We seeded the teams, set up the brackets, then sat back to watch as the pads pounded and the helmets crashed in the ultimate football fantasy event. On the following pages, you'll find out who among our All-Americans bested all of America, and why.

But first, let's introduce the teams (in alphabetical order):

ALABAMA 1992 (13-0)

Bear Bryant preached that games are won on defense, and his pupil, Gene Stallings, never forgot. Except for the swift and versatile David Palmer, Stallings' offense in 1992 was as unflashy as the Tide's uniforms. But their defense — George Teague, Eric Curry, Antonio Langham, John Copeland and some bad, bad friends — was perhaps the best that college football ever saw.

BRIGHAM YOUNG 1984 (13-0)

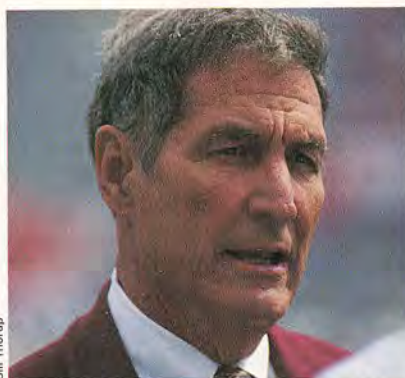
With Robbie Bosco flinging footballs through the mountain air and Glen Kozlowski catching them, BYU could slap an upstart mojo on even the national elite. Because they played in the wild, wild WAC, where big leads can evaporate like raindrops in the desert — and because this was the one year the Cougars didn't possess a future NFL quarterback — some never gave them their due (except for NFL general managers, who drafted no less than 15 players from this team). But when they defeated the Big Ten's Michigan, even the doubters fell silent.

CLEMSON 1981 (12-0)

Football watchers were alerted that the Tigers might be serious when they stuffed defending national champion Georgia and Herschel Walker 13-3. But the Bulldogs were far from the last to experience the power of Clemson's defense, which held nine opponents to 10 points or less. Opposing defenses, meanwhile, spent much of their Saturday afternoons franti-



Larry Kinkor



Bill Thorup

Stallings stressed defense, and the '92 version was his masterpiece.

cally chasing shifty veer quarterback Homer Jordan, explosive Kevin Mack and All-America receiver Perry Tuttle.

FLORIDA 1996 (12-1)

You saw them last year. You know how potent (almost omnipotent) they were. They averaged better than six touchdowns per game and seven yards per snap. They possessed enough firepower to make the Pentagon take notice: Danny Wuerffel, Ike Hilliard, Fred Taylor, Reidel Anthony and Jacquez Green (not to mention a coach acknowledged as the game's reigning offensive genius). Oh, by the way, Florida's defense was one of the nation's top 15, too. An injury-depleted offensive line opened the door for their only loss, at Florida State, and Steve Spurrier's Gators avenged that one mightily in New Orleans.

FLORIDA STATE 1993 (12-1)

With Charlie Ward, Warrick Dunn and William Floyd, the Seminoles crushed archrival Miami, downed Florida and outlasted Nebraska. Had they also managed to win at Notre Dame, they might have ranked among the three best teams of all time.

GEORGIA 1980 (12-0)

The Bulldogs didn't open the season with Walker, a freshman, in the lineup. But it didn't take them long (the fourth quarter of the first game) to "let the Big Dog eat." With Walker carrying the load, underrated quarterback Buck Belue and an inhospitable Bulldog defense, Georgia rolled to a perfect season. And a special thanks to receiver Lindsay Scott, whose 93-yard catch and run against Florida lives on as one of the decade's most memorable plays.

Wuerffel and the Gators were halted by the Huskers again.

MIAMI 1987 (12-0)

Steve Walsh, Michael Irvin, Melvin Bratton, Bennie and Brian Blades, Brett Perri-man, Danny Stubbs, a wardrobe of combat fatigues and lots of attitude. Put them on a field together, and they constituted a team of which opponents lived in active fear. Before the Borg arrived on Star Trek: The Next Generation, there were the 'Canes. Resistance was futile.

NEBRASKA 1995 (12-0)

Want gaudy statistics? How about a 39-point average margin of victory? More than 6,100 yards in total offense. Twenty interceptions (five returned for scores). Only twice all year did anyone manage to restrain Tommie Frazier, Lawrence Phillips and friends. In those two games, Nebraska scored 35 and 37 points. Some maintain they were the greatest college team ever assembled. Read on and see.

NOTRE DAME 1977 (11-1)

Early on, it looked like a prototypical Irish team, with a rock-ribbed defense and big, powerful backs. Then a wild card named Montana entered the deck. The combination proved irresistible. Notre Dame won every game after that, including a 38-10 demolition of Earl Campbell and top-ranked Texas, and a legend was born.



Atlanta Archives

Walker, the Big Dog, feasted till the '85 Sooners took a bite.

OHIO STATE 1968 (10-0)

Eleven All-Americans. Six eventual NFL first-rounders. An offense that averaged 440 yards per game. A defense anchored by Jim Stillwagon and Jack Tatum. With a team like this, Woody Hayes had no need to break sideline markers or stomp his cap. His Buckeyes flattened everything before them like a steamroller in an Ohio cornfield.

OKLAHOMA 1985 (11-1)

Jamelle Holieway, a spectacularly precocious freshman in 1985, was perhaps the last great wishbone quarterback. But what distinguished this squad was one of the greatest of all Oklahoma defenses — best in the nation. Against Brian Bosworth, Tony Casillas and friends, opponents crossed the Sooners' goal line only nine times.



Paterno's '86 defense kept the Lions unbeaten — until the tournament.

PENN STATE 1986 (12-0)

The Lions didn't dominate offensively. In fact, they survived three scares during the regular season and managed only eight first downs in the Fiesta Bowl against Miami. But, oh, their defense. Spearheaded by All-Americans Shane Conlan and Tim Johnson, the Lions' defense ranked among the top three in two major categories. They were so relentless that Joe Paterno once almost cracked a smile when they were on the field.

PITTSBURGH 1976 (12-0)

Everybody remembers Tony Dorsett — particularly Notre Dame's faithful, who witnessed college football's most prolific runner precipitate the worst home loss in Irish history. But this Pitt team was far from one-dimensional. Not with a quarterback like Matt Cavanaugh and a receiver like Gordon Jones. And especially not with a defense that held six opponents under 10 points.

USC 1972 (12-0)

Tailback U. boasted many great teams during the '60s and '70s. But none — not even the USC squads with O.J. Simpson or Charles White or Mike Garrett — could surpass this one. In 1972, only one opponent came closer than 17 points to beating the Trojans. With Anthony Davis and Sam "Bam" Cunningham carrying the ball, and Pete Adams and Dave Brown clearing the way, USC literally ran all over people, including Ohio State in the Rose Bowl. And they were equally formidable on the other side of the ball, where Richard Wood marauded. In fact, the '72 Trojans were one of the few college teams ever to rank in the top seven nationally in both total offense and total defense.

TEXAS 1969 (11-0)

Only a year after Darrell Royal unveiled the wishbone, his Longhorns were running it to perfection (and to the consternation of opponents). Still, this run-dominated team is best remembered for two passes: a fourth-down bomb in the Big Shootout at Arkansas, and another last-gasp completion that helped rally the Horns over Notre Dame in the Cotton Bowl. Other Texas teams might have possessed more fearsome weapons (like Campbell in 1977). But this team, Royal's masterpiece, managed a feat no other squad in Austin has accomplished since: It never lost.

WASHINGTON 1991 (12-0)

They were the best team from the West in 20 years, and a superbly balanced one, with two All-Americans on defense (Steve Emtman and Dave Hoffmann), two world-class defensive backs (Walter Bailey and Dana Hall), two future NFL quarterbacks (Billy Joe Hobert and Mark Brunell), a pancaking

offensive line and tremendous speed. They outscored their opponents 461-101 and whipped Nebraska in Lincoln. They could have matched up decently with more than one NFL squad. Amazingly, some people still overlook this team. Not us.

Before the tournament began, we had to settle a few internal matters.

Our one-team-per-school limit necessitated a play-in round on several campuses — notably, Nebraska, which otherwise would have furnished four of our Sweet Sixteen.

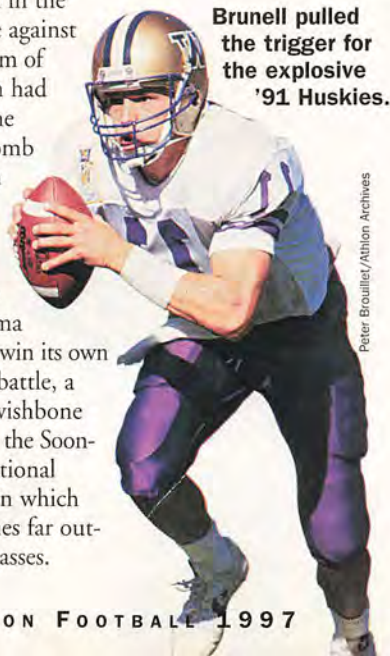
To reach the Athlon Sports tournament, the 1995 national-champion Huskers first had to get by the 1994 national-champion Huskers. The QBs were evenly matched; Frazier and Phillips (for half a season) played for both teams.

But the 1995 defense, with a year's more experience, proved the difference in a 24-21 victory. Tom Osborne, who watched impassively from both the winning and losing sidelines, was simultaneously portrayed as the genius and the goat.

Meanwhile, the 1971 Cornhuskers beat their 1983 counterparts 35-31 — the same score, coincidentally, by which they had defeated No. 2 Oklahoma in the so-called Game of the Century. Things might have turned out differently, but '83's Irving Fryar dropped a sure touchdown pass, just as he did in the Orange Bowl against Miami.

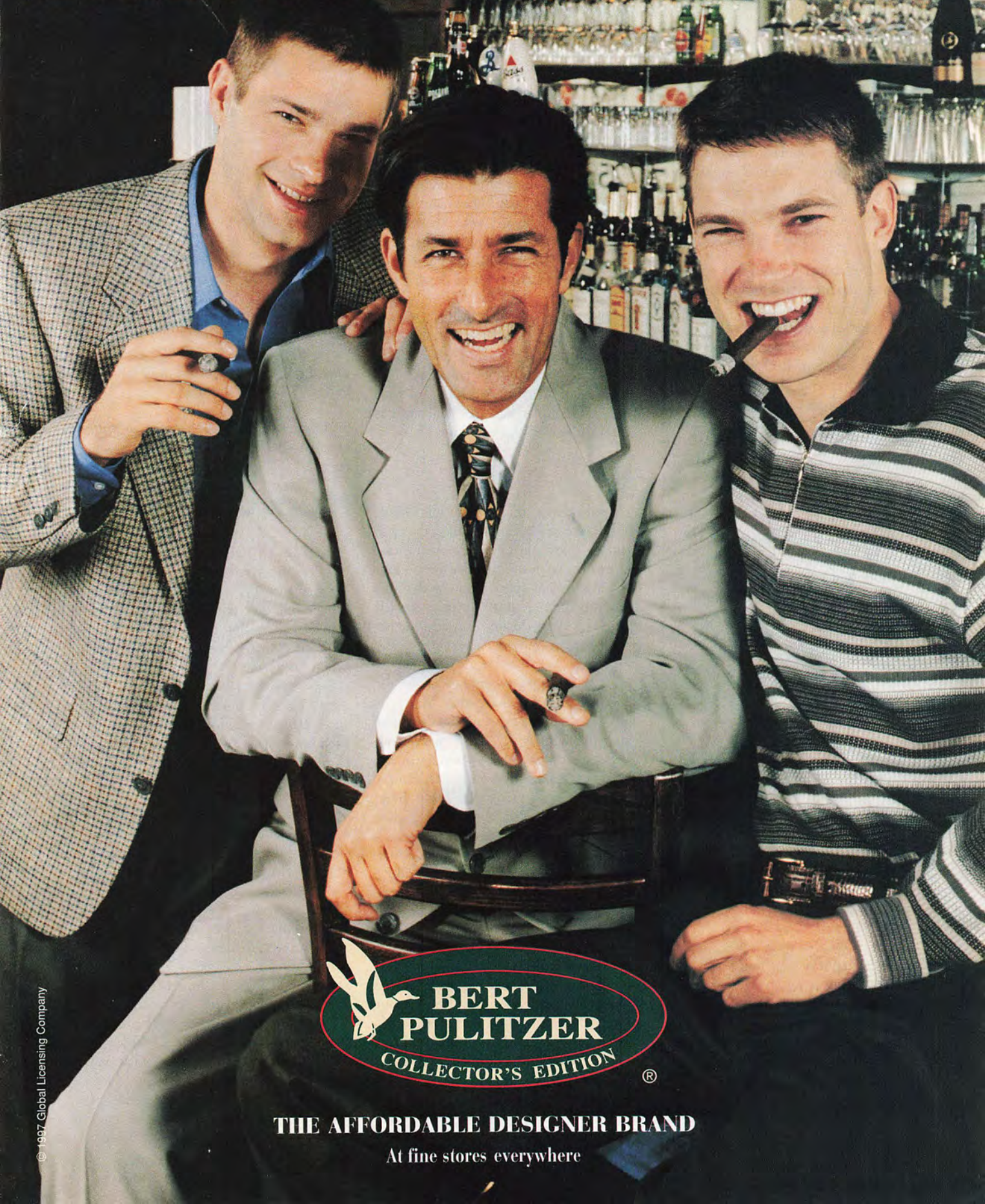
Against the 1995 squad, the 1971 Huskers were left to ruminate over their own what-ifs after an 89-yard punt return by Johnny Rodgers was nullified by a clip. As it was, the '95s advanced, and the team that we rank fourth-best of all time stayed home.

Likewise, a play-in shootout was required at Notre Dame, where Joe Montana rallied the '77 Irish in the final minute against the 11-0 team of 1973, which had just taken the lead on a bomb of their own from Tom Clements to Dave Casper. The '85 Oklahoma team had to win its own internecine battle, a wide-open wishbone affair against the Sooners' 1974 national champions in which option pitches far outnumbered passes.



Brunell pulled the trigger for the explosive '91 Huskies.

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FIRST ROUND

FLORIDA 1996 VS. PITTSBURGH 1976

Dorsett ran for 1,948 yards in '76. But against a fast Gator defense fond of blitzing through every hole, Tony D mostly ran for his life. Meanwhile, even the Panthers' superb defense couldn't cover all of the gifted receivers in Florida's sophisticated aerial attack. Florida 30, Pittsburgh 16.

ALABAMA 1992 VS. FLORIDA STATE 1993

In 1992, Alabama finished first nationally in total defense, rushing defense and turnovers created. They were second in pass defense and scoring defense. But Ward, Dunn and Floyd — and Bobby Bowden's famed trick plays — gave even the Tide's wrecking crew plenty to worry about. In such an even matchup, the outcome rested on the kicking game. Two words summed up the Seminoles' fate: wide right. Alabama 24, Florida State 22.

OKLAHOMA 1985 VS. GEORGIA 1980

In 1985, the Sooners' top-rated defense surrendered only nine touchdowns, and Bosworth and Casillas were not favorably disposed toward giving Walker, the "Big Dog," much leash. Georgia, meanwhile, never discovered an antidote to Holieway, who repeatedly turned the corner faster than you could say "wishbone" with a Deep South drawl. Oklahoma 26, Georgia 12.

BRIGHAM YOUNG 1984 VS. NEBRASKA 1995

Armed with an array of short and medium passes, QB Bosco and the Cougars briefly vexed Nebraska's blitzkrieg defense. In fact, BYU led twice, 7-0 and 14-7, on scoring passes to Kozlowski. But the Cougars could barely slow the Huskers' offensive juggernaut. Nebraska 45, BYU 27.

CLEMSON 1981 VS. TEXAS 1969

In some ways, they were much alike. Both teams relied on clever quarterbacks (Texas' James Street and Clemson's Jordan) to direct their wishbone and veer option offenses. Both counted on swift, swarming defenses to stifle opponents.

Royal understood that the best way to attack a pursuing defense like Clemson's is straight up the middle, and in FB Steve Worster he had a big, blunt weapon.

Mostly four or five yards at a time, Worster continually pounded the Tigers' D, which, in spite of linebacker Jeff Davis, could counter with no one heavier than 257 pounds. Texas 20, Clemson 13.

WASHINGTON 1991 VS. PENN STATE 1986

Give Penn State defensive coordinator Jerry Sandusky time, and he can devise a way to bring even the most prolific offense to an ugly, screeching halt. The Lions would need all of Sandusky's wives to slow the Huskies, who could fling the ball even more effectively than the Miami aerial show that Joe Pa's boys shot down in the Fiesta Bowl. But the cheetah-quick Huskies, who averaged better than 40 points a game, could fire more speeding bullets than even the Lions could dodge, and D.J. Dozier found no cracks in a Washington defense cemented by Emtman, LB Hoffman and CBs Hall and Bailey. Washington 19, Penn State 13.

MIAMI 1987 VS. USC 1972

Irresistible Force, meet Immovable Object. With Davis and Cunningham in the backfield — plus All-Americans Adams and Charles Young in the offensive line — John McKay's Trojans sported one of the most powerful running attacks ever assembled. Opposing them, Miami's fast and punishing defense was among the best ever against the run.

The Hurricanes' swarming defense, led by Stubbs at tackle and George Mira Jr. at linebacker, all but expelled USC's famous "student body right." The Trojans, however, could call on other awesome weapons — like backup quarterback Pat Haden and wide receiver Lynn Swann. Davis broke Miami's back with a 97-yard kickoff return. As a mild upset took shape, the 'Canes didn't help themselves with three penalties for unsportsmanlike conduct. USC 24, Miami 20.

NOTRE DAME 1977 VS. OHIO STATE 1968

In a matchup of antediluvian monsters worthy of Godzilla vs. King Kong, Notre Dame's bone-crunching defense and Ohio State's "Robust T" formation clashed head-on. The Irish limited Buckeye quarterback Rex Kern and running backs Jim Otis and Leo Hayden to their second-lowest point total of the season. But (see a pattern forming?) it took a late pass from Montana to



Walsh and the '87 Hurricanes fell to the '72 Trojan machine.

his favorite target, Ken MacAfee, to bring victory to the Irish. Notre Dame 20, Ohio State 17.

SECOND ROUND

FLORIDA 1996 VS. ALABAMA 1992

Tournament MVP (Most Versatile Player) Palmer did everything for Alabama but snap the ball. Against the Gators, he caught a touchdown pass, threw one and returned a punt for a score.

But while the Tide possessed one swift arrow, Florida owned a quiver full. For once, Bama's relentless defense encountered an offense it couldn't dominate. Florida 28, Alabama 20.

OKLAHOMA 1985 VS. NEBRASKA 1995

Somehow, fate (OK, it was us) brought together the best from these two neighbors whose rivalry assumed a Balkan intensity. This time, the stakes were even higher than usual.

The Sooners devised a brilliant way to neutralize Nebraska's pass rush: They didn't pass. Meanwhile, Holieway's speed and adept handling of the option strung out the Huskers and opened the middle.

But this Nebraska defense possessed much more speed than those the Oklahomans once waltzed past. And even Casillas and Bosworth, who anchored the nation's third-best rushing defense, came up second-best against Frazier, Phillips and the huge Nebraska line. Nebraska 34, Oklahoma 20.

TEXAS 1969 VS. WASHINGTON 1991

This wasn't just a clash of immortal teams but of eras. And, on paper anyhow, the newer and flashier Washington model appeared to hold an advantage. The Longhorns possessed no lineman as dominating as the Huskies' Emtman, no blocker quite as formidable as Lincoln Kennedy, and no one quite as elusive as All-American Mario Bailey or Beno Bryant. Nor did Texas enjoy the luxury of two great quarterbacks, Hobert and Brunell.

Fortunately for the Horns, the wishbone is not built around individual matchups. With three attractive rushing options — Street, Worster and HB Jim Bertelsen — and a few timely passes to Randy Peschel and Cotton Speyrer, Texas controlled the clock just enough to neutralize the Huskies' offensive arsenal. Texas 17, Washington 10.

USC 1972 VS. NOTRE DAME 1977

Montana, who seemed many long, golden hairs too unregimented to suit coach Dan Devine, began 1977 as a third-teamer. But through Devine intervention (or, more accurately, desperation), the junior quarterback rallied the Irish past Purdue with 17 fourth-quarter points. At Clemson's "Death Valley," Montana scored two late TDs to cement his reputation as "The Comeback Kid."

The greatest of all the great USC teams would test Montana's magic once more. Even with Ross Browner and Bob Golic in the line, the Irish barely contained Davis and Cunningham, whose running staked SC to a 17-7 lead.

Then — almost supernaturally, some said — a gray-blue, October-like sky gave way to bright sunshine. Montana led the Irish to a field goal, a short TD pass and, with seven seconds to play, a scrambling two-point conversion. Notre Dame 18, USC 17.



Notre Dame Archives

SEMIFINALS

FLORIDA 1996 VS. NEBRASKA 1995

If you can't beat 'em, reasoned the '95 Gators after a 62-24 humiliation by Nebraska, join 'em. So Florida adopted the Huskers' blitzing defensive scheme and bolstered their running game with Elijah Williams and Taylor, each of whom averaged more than six yards per carry. In the process, the Gators transformed themselves from merely terrific to terrifyingly good.

It made for perhaps the most scintillating matchup of our tournament — and a titanic struggle that, ironically, was both defensive and high-scoring.

Even from the shotgun, Wuerffel was regularly pressured by Jared Tomich, Christian Peter and Grant Wistrom. But when Spurrier called just the right plays, they busted big: an 85-yard pass to Green, a 45-yard bolt by Taylor, and a fourth-down heave from Wuerffel to Anthony.

Nor, in spite of numerous tackles for loss, could Florida contain Frazier, Phillips and Ahman Green, who all broke long runs. Everyone guessed that the team that had the ball last would win. With 30 seconds to play, Phillips carried three Gators into the end zone, and Frazier converted the winning two points. Nebraska 32, Florida 31.

TEXAS 1969 VS. NOTRE DAME 1977

It was *deja vu*, as Yogi Berra supposedly said, all over again. The '69 Horns and '77 Irish, who won national titles at the other's expense in the Cotton Bowl, renewed their occasional meetings at the summit.

This time, the Irish couldn't count on the generosity of the '77 Texas offense, which yielded five turnovers that led to Notre Dame scores. In their championship win, however, the '69 Longhorns never had to face a miracle-worker like Montana.

As in the previous two rounds, Montana gave Notre Dame a late lead on a pass to (who else?) McAfee — perhaps the only tight end ever to finish among the top three in the Heisman voting. But the Horns scrambled back. On fourth and two, Speyrer dove headlong to snare the winning TD pass from Street. Remember: *deja vu* all over again. Texas 21, Notre Dame 17.

Montana ran out of miracles against the '69 Longhorns.



Steve Woltmann

The 1995 Nebraska juggernaut captured the 30-year national crown.

CHAMPIONSHIP

NEBRASKA 1995 VS. TEXAS 1969

Against Nebraska's rock-solid defenders, many teams would have been tempted to abandon hopes of running (except for their lives). But run-loving Royal always said, "You dance with who brung you." As he also was fond of observing, three things could happen on a pass, and two of them were bad.

Sticking by their guns, the Longhorns played the Cornhuskers to a 10-10 half-time standoff. Street, Bertelsen and Worster, running behind Bob Wuensch, kept Nebraska surprisingly off balance. The Horns "other" halfback, Ted Koy, scored on a 60-yard bolt after receiving an option pitch.

By the end of the third period, however, the Huskers' size and power wore down the Texas defense; Eric Anderson, Chris Dishman and Aaron Taylor — the big horses that pulled Nebraska's offensive wagon — cleared wide lanes for Frazier, Phillips and Green. All three rushed for more than 100 yards.

Down 24-10, the Longhorns were forced, against Royal's druthers, to change dance partners. When Texas began passing, one good thing happened — a long TD to Peschel, who sneaked behind the Husker secondary when Street faked an option run. Then, as Royal feared, a bad thing: an interception returned by cornerback Tyrone Williams for the game's final score: Nebraska 31, Texas 17.

If the championship seemed anticlimactic, it wasn't against form. When we reviewed our original, highly scientific pre-tournament rankings for each team, we discovered that the two strongest had met in the finals. The seedings held. And, in the end, against the best collegiate competition of all time, the best team of all time won. No matter what the pollsters may say.

LEGENDS OF THE FALL

Alabama 1992**Coach:** Gene Stallings**Stallions:** WR David Palmer; DB George Teague; DB Antonio Langham; DL John Copeland; QB Jay Barker (1,614 passing yds.); RB Derrick Lassic (905 yds. rushing)**Core Strength:** Defense**Most Impressive Stat:** Defense ranked No. 1 nationally (gave up only 55 rushing yds. per game).**Eye-Opening Win:** 34-13 over Miami**Brigham Young 1984****Coach:** LaVell Edwards**Stallions:** QB Robbie Bosco (3,875 yds. passing, 33 TDs); WR David Mills (60 catches, 1,023 yds.); RB Lake Heimili (5 yds.-per-carry average); WR Glen Kozlowski**Core Strength:** Passing game**Impressive Stat:** 15 NFL draft picks on team**Eye-Opening Wins:** 20-14 at No.3 Pittsburgh; 24-17 over Michigan.**Clemson 1981****Coach:** Danny Ford**Stallions:** QB Homer Jordan; RB Cliff Austin; RB Kevin Mack; WR Perry Tuttle; LB Jeff Davis; S Terry Kinard**Core Strength:** Defense; rushing**Most Impressive Stat:** Held all but three opponents to 10 points or less.**Eye-Opening Win:** 13-3 over defending national champion Georgia.**Florida 1996****Coach:** Steve Spurrier**Stallions:** QB Danny Wuerffel (3,625 passing yds., 39 TDs); WR Reidel Anthony (1,293 yds., 18 TDs); WR Jacquez Green; WR Ike Hilliard (900 yards); DB Fred Weary (five INTs)**Core Strength:** Passing (duh!)**Most Impressive Stat:** Offense scored 67 TDs on drives averaging only 1:59.**Eye-Opening Win:** 52-20 over Florida State**Florida State 1993****Coach:** Bobby Bowden**Stallions:** QB Charlie Ward (3,371 yds. total offense); RB Warrick Dunn; FB William Floyd; DE Derrick Brooks; DB Corey Sawyer; DE Derrick Alexander**Core Strength:** Balanced, lightning-fast offense**Most Impressive Stat:** 548 yds. per game total offense; shut out four opponents.**Eye-Opening Wins:** 57-0 at Clemson; 38-10 over Miami**Georgia 1980****Coach:** Vince Dooley**Stallions:** RB Herschel Walker (1,616 yds.) set 68 NCAA, SEC and school records; QB Buck Belue; WR Lindsay Scott (19.7 yds. per catch)**Greatest Strength:** Rushing**Most Impressive Stat:** Three shutouts**Eye-Opening Win:** 16-15 at Tennessee**Miami 1987****Coach:** Jimmy Johnson**Stallions:** DE Danny Stubbs; S Bennie Blades; QB Steve Walsh (2,249 yds., 19 TDs); WR Michael Irvin (715 yds., six TDs); FB Melvin Bratton; LB George Mira (147 tackles)**Core Strength:** Passing; killer defense**Most Impressive Stat:** 19 career interceptions by senior Bennie Blades, Jim Thorpe Award winner as nation's top DB.**Eye-Opening Wins:** 51-7 at No. 10 Arkansas; 24-0 over Notre Dame**Nebraska 1995****Coach:** Tom Osborne**Stallions:** QB Tommie Frazier (604 rushing yds., 17 passing TDs); RB Lawrence Phillips (7.7 yds. per carry); RB Ahman Green (1,086 rushing yds., 13 TDs).**Core Strength:** Everything**Most Impressive Stats:** 4,398 rushing yds. to 862 for opponents; Defense intercepted 20 passes, returned five for TDs.**Eye-Opening Wins:** 77-28 at Arizona State; 44-21 at Colorado; 62-24 over Florida.**Notre Dame 1977****Coach:** Dan Devine**Stallions:** Joe Montana (over 1,600 passing yds., 11 TDs); TE Ken MacAfee (54 catches, 797 yds.); RB Jerome Heavens (994 rushing yds.); LB Bob Golic; DE Ross Browner; CB Luther Bradley**Core Strength:** Defense**Most Impressive Stat:** Won 10 straight games after Montana became starting QB**Eye-Opening Wins:** 49-19 over No. 5 USC; 38-10 over No. 1 Texas**Ohio State 1968****Coach:** Woody Hayes**Stallions:** RB Jim Otis (985 yds. rushing, 17 TDs); QB Rex Kern (972 yds. passing); DB Jack Tatum; LB Jim Stillwagon**Core Strength:** Rushing**Most Impressive Stat:** 11 All-Americans and six eventual NFL first-round draft picks**Eye-Opening Win:** 50-14 over Michigan

Fred Vuich/Alton Archives

Oklahoma 1985**Coach:** Barry Switzer**Stallions:** QB Jamelle Holieway; TE Keith Jackson; DB Rickey Dixon; NG Tony Casillas; LB Brian Bosworth (131 tackles); DE Kevin Murphy (All-America)**Core Strength:** Defense**Most Impressive Stat:** First nationally in total defense, third in rushing defense. No opponent scored more than 14 points; eight held to seven or less.**Eye-Opening Win:** 25-10 over Penn State**Penn State 1986****Coach:** Joe Paterno**Stallions:** RB D.J. Dozier (1,098 total yds.); LB Shane Conlan (79 tackles); DT Tim Johnson**Core Strength:** Defense**Most Impressive Stat:** Third-best scoring and rushing defense in nation.**Eye-Opening Win:** 23-3 at Alabama**Pittsburgh 1976****Coach:** Johnny Majors**Stallions:** Tony Dorsett (Heisman winner, 1,948 yds. rushing); QB Matt Cavanaugh (1,046 passing yds.); DT Randy Holloway; S Bob Jury (10 INTs); MG Al Romano**Core Strength:** Rushing; defense**Most Impressive Stat:** Held six opponents to seven points or fewer**Eye-Opening Wins:** 31-10 at Notre Dame and 27-3 over No. 4 Georgia**Southern California 1972****Coach:** John McKay**Stallions:** TB Anthony Davis (1,191 rushing yds., 19 TDs); FB Sam Cunningham; QB Mike Rae; WR Lynn Swann; DE Richard Wood**Core Strength:** Great offense, great defense, great balance**Most Impressive Stat:** Trained only three times all year**Eye-Opening Win:** 42-17 over Ohio State**Texas 1969****Coach:** Darrell Royal**Stallions:** FB Steve Worster (649 yds., nine TDs); QB James Street; HB Jim Bertelsen (7.1 yds. per carry); TE Randy Peschel; DE Bill Atessis; T Bob McKay (All-America); LB Glen Halsell (All-America)**Core Strength:** Rushing, ball control**Most Impressive Stat:** (57 TDs; 472 yds. total offense per game)**Eye-Opening Win:** 15-14 over Arkansas**Washington 1991****Coach:** Don James**Stallions:** DT Steve Emtman (top pick in NFL draft); QB Billy Joe Hobert (22 passing TDs, 2,271 yds.); QB Mark Brunell; OT Lincoln Kennedy; WR Mario Bailey (1,037 yards, 17 TDs); LB Dave Hoffmann; CB Dana Hall; CB Walter Bailey (seven INTs)**Core Strength:** Everything**Most Impressive Stat:** Held Heisman winner Desmond Howard to one catch in Rose Bowl**Eye-Opening Wins:** 36-21 at Nebraska; 34-14 over Michigan

Bosco and the '84 Cougars were worn down by Nebraska after leading early.

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Dick Milligan

Washington

There was an old baseball joke that went like this: "Washington, first in war, first in peace and last in the American League."

Washington is no longer in the American League and that was Washington, D.C., anyway. There's another Washington way out in the Pacific Northwest, and it's the Washington Huskies that *Athlon Sports* is picking to win the 1997 national championship.

For the first time since he took over in 1993, coach Jim Lambright has a large group of veteran seniors to provide leadership (more than half the returning starters are seniors). His major "problems"? Prepping a young linebacker corps and finding consistency in the kicking game.

"We've asked this team, 'Isn't this where you want to be? Don't you want to be considered a national power?'" Lambright says. "You can't be uncomfortable in this role."

Catalyst: Overcoming a tough early schedule that lists Brigham Young, Nebraska and Arizona State in the first four games.

Can't Win Without: Free safety Tony Parrish, the top returning tackler, who led the team with eight pass breakups but had only two interceptions (Washington's 10 picks were the fewest since 1938). "Tony has to intercept more passes," Lambright says.

Get the Point: The 1995 season marked the first time the Huskies scored at least 20 points in every regular-season game. They did it again in 1996 and added 21 against Colorado in the Holiday Bowl.

1996 Results: 9-3 (7-1 Pac-10)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 8/27; defense 8/21; punter

1

athlonpreseason top25

1. Washington
2. Penn State
3. North Carolina
4. Texas
5. Florida
6. Nebraska
7. LSU
8. Florida State
9. Tennessee
10. Ohio State
11. Notre Dame
12. Colorado
13. Auburn
14. Alabama
15. Miami
16. Michigan
17. Wisconsin
18. Texas A&M
19. Iowa
20. Stanford
21. UCLA
22. Clemson
23. Syracuse
24. USC
25. BYU

2 Penn State



Steve Woltmann

Last season was supposed to be something of a rebuilding year. Joe Paterno had one of the youngest teams in his 31 years as head coach, but the Nittany Lions earned their 20th Top 10 finish under Paterno, posted 11 victories for the 12th time and trounced Big 12 champ Texas 38-15 in the Fiesta Bowl. The Lions are loaded everywhere except at quarterback, where Mike McQueary

takes over for Wally Richardson, who had the lowest career interception percentage in school history (just 14 in 692 attempts). There are also some openings on the offensive line (for the second year in a row, more than half the starters graduated) and in the kicking game, which lost the placekicker and punter. The 2,440-yard ground game, led by tailback Curtis Enis' 1,210, returns intact eight lettermen strong, and Penn State should have its most athletic and talented defense of the Big Ten era, especially at linebacker.

Catalyst: A schedule conducive to a quick getaway with Pitt, Temple, Louisville and Illinois the first four opponents. Penn State should be 4-0 when Ohio State comes calling.

Can't Win Without: Joe Paterno, 70, whose 289-74-3 record makes him the active coach with the most wins and fourth in major-college history behind Bear Bryant, Pop Warner and Amos Alonzo Stagg.

Senior Prom: The 16 seniors who finished their careers last year compiled the most wins in a four-year span (42-7) at Penn State since freshmen became eligible in 1972.

1996 Results: 11-2 (6-2 Big Ten)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 6/21; defense 7/20; no kickers

North Carolina 3

Only 12 programs have won at least 10 games in two of the past four seasons, and North Carolina is one of them. Basketball — what's that? "People are talking football year-round here now, and that is exciting," says coach Dean Smith — er, Mack Brown. One of last year's losses was a hard-fought 13-0 battle with Florida State. The Tar Heels have their sights set on dethroning the Seminoles as Atlantic Coast Conference champs with arguably the nation's best defense featuring a potential All-American on the line (Greg Ellis), at linebacker (Brian Simmons) and in the secondary (Dré Bly). Carolina returns nine players who received first- or second-team All-ACC honors. Even with star tailback Leon Johnson, the running game left something to be desired last year, and now Johnson is gone. Offensively, Carolina will rely on two proven quarterbacks and one of the best wide receiver trios in the country. The schedule brings three of the four toughest opponents to Chapel Hill: Stanford, Virginia and Florida State.



Tim O'Dell

Catalyst: A star-studded defense that returns almost everyone from a unit that led the nation in scoring defense and finished among the top three in the other major categories.

Can't Win Without: An improved running attack. Carolina ranked seventh in the ACC last year with only 118.6 yards a game. In their two losses, the Tar Heels were held to 40 rushing yards by Florida State and 11 by Virginia.

Seventh Heaven: North Carolina completed its seventh consecutive winning season in 1996 for the second time this century.

1996 Results: 10-2 (6-2 ACC)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 6/19; defense 9/20; both kickers

4 Texas



Pat O'Malley

Not since the legendary Darrell Royal was the coach more than two decades ago has Texas enjoyed this kind of success: three straight conference championships and back-to-back Alliance bowl berths. "We are excited about what we have accomplished and hope to build on that success," coach John Mackovic says. The offense, which set a school record with 5,525 yards, has two of the most explosive players around in tail-

back Ricky Williams (Texas' best pure running back since Earl Campbell) and quarterback James Brown, plus four starters on a line that held Nebraska without a sack for the first time in 39 games. The defense goes back to a 4-3 alignment and returns virtually the entire front seven. They include strongman tackle Chris Akins (556-pound bench-press, 760 squat). The challenge is replacing 10 starters, including a trio of All-Americans, among them all-time leading receiver Mike Adams.

Catalyst: A schedule with only one opponent that was ranked at the end of last season (Colorado), and that game is in Austin.

Can't Win Without: Adequately replacing the entire secondary that was one of the nation's best. Four three-year regulars started a combined 137 games.

The Play: Clinging to a 30-27 lead and facing fourth-and-inches at his own 28, quarterback James Brown faked to running back Priest Holmes, rolled left and hit tight end Derek Lewis on a 61-yard pass play that set up the final touchdown in a 37-27 upset of Nebraska in the Big 12 Championship Game.

1996 Results: 8-5 (7-2 Big12)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 6/22; defense 6/18; both kickers

Florida 5

Is there life after Danny Wuerffel? Florida's No. 1 priority is to rebuild the passing attack, which lost not only Wuerffel, but wide receivers Ike Hilliard and Reidel Anthony, as well. The Gators will try to match Alabama's record of five consecutive Southeastern Conference championships with a young squad that has sophomore Doug Johnson in Wuerffel's shoes after a great spring. Only four offensive starters return. The defense was a success under first-year coordinator Bob Stoops and the core of that unit returns. The stop troops set a school record with six defensive touchdowns and tied an NCAA record with four fumble returns for TDs. They ranked in the Top 20 nationally in the four major defensive categories. The defensive line could rank among the country's better units, but a key is replacing three starters in the secondary.



Larry Kinker

Catalyst: On a roll. Florida has finished the last six years ranked in the Top 10 and is one of three schools to win nine or more games every year this decade. It boasts four straight SEC titles and 22 straight conference wins.

Can't Win Without: Coach Steve Spurrier's "system," a/k/a the "Fun & Gun" offense that has made him the winningest coach in SEC history (based on winning percentage) with a 53-6 record. In his 10 years as a head coach, Spurrier's teams have thrown for more than 3,000 yards each season and have averaged 320.6 passing yards a game.

Superior Spurrier: The coach's winning percentage of .770 is fourth nationally, but his .898 SEC percentage is by far the best in conference history (Tennessee's Bob Neyland is a distant second at .786).

1996 Results: 12-1 (9-0 SEC, national champions)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 4/22; defense 7/27; punter

6 Nebraska

Courtland Richards



Nebraska didn't win that third straight national championship, but no one would be shocked if the Cornhuskers made it three out of four. "Our offense got better and better as the year went along," says coach Tom Osborne. "We have more people back on offense with playing time and game experience than we do on defense, but athletically, we are still pretty good on defense." The Huskers

concluded a four-year stretch that saw them go 47-3, the most wins ever for any school over a four-year period. The offense is in better shape than a year ago with starters returning at quarterback and I-back, and All-American Aaron Taylor heading up a line that averages almost 300 pounds a man. The three defensive starters — rush end Grant Wistrom, tackle Jason Peter and cornerback Ralph Brown — are among the nation's best.

Catalyst: Nebraska's 36-game home winning streak doesn't appear to be in too much danger, but there are two major trouble spots on the road, Washington and Colorado.

Can't Win Without: A big-play quarterback. Scott Frost has now had a year in the system. His first season wasn't too bad, even though Nebraska wasn't the juggernaut of the two previous years. In fact, Frost's 1,440 passing yards bettered the 1,362 by Tommie Frazier in 1995.

Streakers: Nebraska's streak of 28 seasons with at least nine wins may be the most remarkable record in college football. The Huskers also have had four straight 11-win seasons, 35 consecutive winning seasons and 28 straight bowl bids, all NCAA records.

1996 Results: 11-2 (8-1 Big 12)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 6/33; defense 3/33; both kickers

LSU

7

Tailback Kevin Faulk, the SEC's second-leading rusher (116.5 yards a game), returns to the league's top rushing team (211.1). Faulk & Co. helped LSU tie Alabama atop the SEC West only two years after struggling through a school-record six straight losing seasons. LSU has seven home games, including Auburn, Florida and Notre Dame. The only tough road trip is Alabama in Tuscaloosa. The biggest loss on offense is All-America tight end David LaFleur. The whole interior line returns, led by all-star guard Alan Faneca. The four-man defensive line is back and features a pair of outstanding tackles in Chuck Wiley and Anthony McFarland.

Catalyst: LSU fans are among the loudest anywhere and will have seven chances to voice their feelings this fall after a school-record average attendance of 79,519 a year ago. LSU placed a decibel meter on the stadium floor during last year's Alabama game. The highest reading was 117 decibels, which is louder than a rock concert but slightly quieter than a jet engine.

Can't Win Without: A better defense against the run. LSU finished next-to-last in the SEC a year ago, yielding 153.4 yards a game. With all four starters returning up front, there should be dramatic improvement.

Whitewashed: Tiger Stadium was a sea of white when LSU played Vanderbilt, Gerry DiNardo's old school. Vanderbilt would not allow LSU to wear its traditional white jerseys (under NCAA rules the visiting team must agree to let the home team wear white). Approximately 30,000 "White Out Vanderbilt" T-shirts were sold, and LSU wore gold jerseys in whitewashing Vandy 35-0.

1996 Results: 10-2 (6-2 SEC)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 8/16; defense 8/16; both kickers



Courtland Richards

8

Florida State

Mike Moore



Florida State coach Bobby Bowden became known as "King of the Road" during a stretch of rugged road games in the 1980s. He will be tested again this year with trips to USC, Clemson, Virginia, North Carolina and Florida. The Seminoles have

plenty of talent returning, but there also are more holes to fill than usual. Bowden, always optimistic, says, "If we can stay away from injuries and have a little luck, we could be right there with a chance to win it all at the end." If he's wrong, this could mark the end of a record 10-year streak during which Florida State has won at least 10 games and finished in the top four every season. Rushing king Warrick Dunn is gone and so are three offensive linemen. The defense, once it gets acclimated, could be as good as last year's smothering unit that held opponents to 59.0 yards a game on the ground.

Catalyst: The memory of the 1995 Fiesta Bowl wipeout by Nebraska in the national championship game gave Florida something to shoot for last year, and the Gators won it all. Florida State will use the memory of the Sugar Bowl rout by Florida to try and do the same.

Can't Win Without: Dee Feaster stepping forward at tailback to replace Warrick Dunn (graduated) and Rock Preston (ineligible). Feaster is the only tailback with appreciable experience.

All in the Family: Three of Bobby Bowden's four sons are football coaches. Terry is head coach at Auburn, Tommy is head coach at Tulane and Jeff is an assistant at Florida State. Daughter Robyn is married to Auburn assistant Jack Hines.

1996 Results: 11-1 (8-0 ACC)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 5/20; defense 4/24; no kickers

Tennessee

9

If Tennessee fans had their way, they'd probably take up a collection to get Peyton Manning the money he bypassed by turning down the NFL to return for his senior season. With the return of Manning, Tennessee's career passing leader, no one really feels sorry for coach Phillip Fulmer's lament that "we have to establish who's going to be our tight end and how we're going to overcome the lack of depth and lack of experience at that position and at tailback, fullback, linebacker and at punter." Manning alone ensures a potent offense, and the defense could be as good or better than last year's group that led the SEC. Marcus Nash takes over for Joey Kent as Manning's primary receiver, but the tailback and fullback positions are wide open. End Leonard Little is the defensive star, although he might wind up at linebacker.

Catalyst: Despite the best passing season in Tennessee history, the only championship Manning brought the Vols was a Citrus Bowl win over Northwestern. The graduation of Florida's Danny Wuerffel gives the Vols a shot in the SEC, but they've lost four straight and nine of 11 to the Gators, and have to travel to Gainesville.

Can't Win Without: Peyton Manning, who else? Manning may not be a one-man team, but he's the one man Tennessee can't do without. Tee Martin will have to wait until 1998 to take over at quarterback.

Standing Room Only: With the expansion of Neyland Stadium, Tennessee last year drew four of the 15 largest crowds in college football history, including a record 107,608 for Florida.

1996 Results: 10-2 (7-1 SEC)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 7/24; defense 7/23; placekicker



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10 Ohio State



Joe Robbins

The losses are significant but the cupboard is far from empty. It rarely is in Columbus, where the 1996 seniors ended their careers with a 41-8-1 record, a school best for wins in a four-year period. Despite the galling loss to archrival Michigan, Ohio State's No. 2 final ranking was the Buckeyes' highest since 1973. They will reload around tailback Pepe Pearson, split end David

Boston, two talented quarterbacks and linebacker Andy Katzenmoyer, who has graduated from a fabulous freshman to a stupendous sophomore. The defense was hit hardest and returns one starter on the line, one linebacker (Katzenmoyer) and one in the secondary.

Catalyst: Woody Hayes would never mention Michigan by name (it was always "that school up north"). Talk about an albatross, that school up north cost Ohio State the national championship a year ago. The Buckeyes are 2-9-1 against Michigan — sorry, the Wolverines — in the last 12 years and visit Ann Arbor this year. Ohio State also has to go to Penn State.

Can't Win Without: Andy Katzenmoyer started every game last year as a true freshman (the first Ohio State linebacker ever to do so) and finished with 85 tackles, 23 tackles for loss, 12 sacks and four interceptions. He was Big Ten Freshman of the Year.

Trifecta: The Buckeyes defeated three top five teams in 1996, beating No. 4 Penn State and No. 5 Notre Dame on consecutive Saturdays and No. 2 Arizona State in the Rose Bowl.

1996 Results: 11-1 (7-1 Big Ten)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 5/21; defense 3/17; punter

Notre Dame

11



Pat O'Malley

Lou Holtz, who coached more games than anyone (Rockne, Leahy, Parseghian included) in Notre Dame history, is gone; Ron Powlus, who has thrown more touchdown passes than any Irish quarterback, is back. It remains to be seen which will have a bigger impact. Not only is there a new head coach in former defensive coordinator Bob Davie, but Notre Dame Stadium has been remodeled and expanded from the age-old 59,075 capacity to around 81,000, a number befitting such a prestigious program. Except on the defensive front seven, there are plenty of returning starters from a team that lost two games in overtime and another to highly ranked Ohio State. The return of Powlus — he said he wouldn't be back if Holtz was — is vital since the Irish averaged 37.0 points and 463.3 yards a game, both figures ranking third in school history. The defense allowed 270.0 yards a game, the best in 16 years, and recorded a school-record 41 sacks, while the pass defense ranked 10th nationally.

Catalyst: With option-happy Holtz gone, the offense is a whole new system. Davie will make greater use of multiple formations, including the shotgun, and will even use Powlus in dropback situations, assuming he remembers what those are.

Can't Win Without: Replacing five of the top six tacklers from last year. Only one starter is back on the line (end Melvin Dansby) and one at linebacker (Kory Minor).

Many Happy Returns: Cornerback Allen Rossum led the nation in punt returns with a 22.9-yard average and three touchdowns. He also averaged 37.8 on kickoff returns, with one TD.

1996 Results: 8-3

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 7/22; defense 7/19; both kickers

12 Colorado



John Hessler

Only four schools have won at least 10 games in each of the last three years: Florida, Florida State, Nebraska . . . and Colorado, which did it for the first time. You can't blame Colorado for looking ahead to Nov. 28. That's when Nebraska comes to Boulder, and the Cornhuskers have been a thorn in Colorado's side, winning the last five meetings. "I made a mistake a year ago by stating that our goal was to win the

national championship, and that we felt it was possible," says coach Rick Neuheisel, whose team lost to Michigan by seven points and Nebraska by five. Neuheisel probably thinks the same thing again; he just isn't saying it. The Buffs have plenty of all-stars on both sides of the ball. They even have an experienced quarterback in John Hessler, who started most of 1995, to replace Koy Detmer. Neuheisel's main concerns are (1) finding a consistent punter and (2) the lack of experienced depth on the offensive line. Other coaches should be so lucky.

Catalyst: Trips to Michigan and Texas in the first seven games. Colorado is 37-7-1 on the road in the last nine years.

Can't Win Without: Upgrading what Neuheisel describes as "a diminished running game" in 1996 (the Buffs were 11th in the Big 12). Some two-back sets with more features involving the fullback are on the drawing board.

Ten-Count: Neuheisel is the fifth coach in Division I-A history to win 10 or more games in each of his first two seasons (Barry Switzer, Bill Battle, Dick Crum and Gary Blackney are the others; only Switzer and Battle did it a third time).

1996 Results: 10-2 (7-1 Big 12)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 6/29; defense 7/21; both kickers

Auburn

13



Dwight King

The jury is still out on Terry Bowden. After starting with records of 11-0 and 9-1-1, Bowden has encountered what passes for hard times at Auburn: a pair of 8-4 seasons. Bowden thinks he knows the reason for the two-year "slump." "In 1993 and 1994, everybody we came out of the spring with played through the season," he says. "Nobody got hurt. For two years that happened, then all of a sudden it stopped. We have been forced to use too many young people two years in a row." Those youthful offenders are now veterans, especially on offense, where quarterback Dameyune Craig will play behind a line that goes two-deep for the first time in Bowden's tenure. "The keys are the quarterback position and the overall development of our defense," Bowden says. Another key is surviving September trips to Virginia and LSU.

Catalyst: Defensive improvement is a must, meaning All-America linebacker Takeo Spikes must stay healthy because, according to Bowden, "He can be head and tails above everyone else."

Can't Win Without: "(Quarterback) Dameyune Craig must have a great year for us to win the close games that allow you to have a great year," Bowden says.

Oh, Brother: Auburn led the nation in interceptions per game in the 1996 regular season (2.0) under first-year defensive coordinator Bill "Brother" Oliver. When Oliver coached the defensive backs during his first stint at Auburn (1966-70), the Tigers posted the three highest single-season interception totals in school history.

1996 Results: 8-4 (4-4 SEC)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 8/22; defense 10/24; dual-purpose

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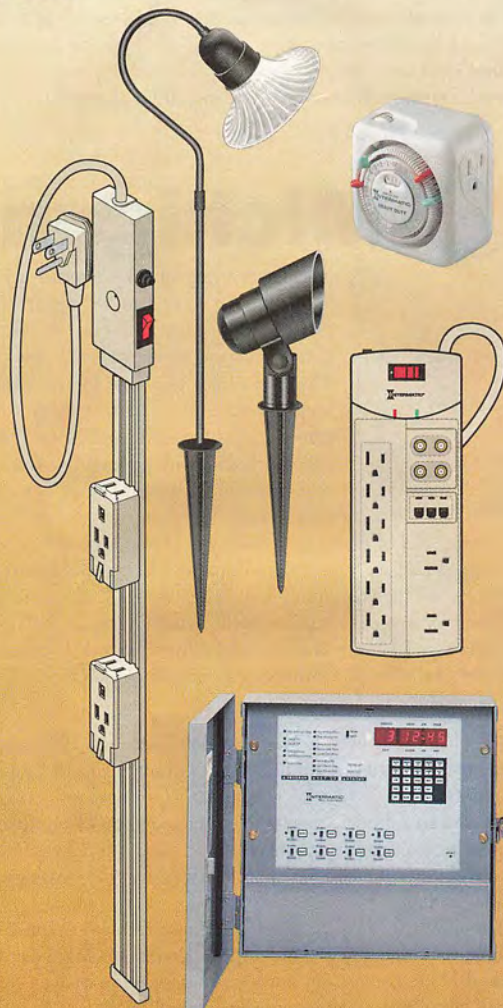
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14 Alabama



Dwight King

The Bear is gone but Bear's Boys are still around. And one of them, Mike DuBose, inherits the coaching job that Bryant gave up in 1982. DuBose was a defensive lineman on three of Bryant's Southeastern Conference championship teams (1972-73-74) and Alabama went 32-4 in that stretch. If DuBose can duplicate that record as a head coach, everyone will be happy. At Alabama, it's

all about contending for the national championship; that may be too much to ask right away. DuBose was the defensive line coach under Stallings and took over as defensive coordinator last year. However, his defense lost seven starters, although All-America tackle Michael Myers returns. The offense has plenty of good runners (Dennis Riddle, Shaun Alexander, Curtis Alexander), but Bruce Arians, the new offensive coordinator, has the unenviable task of improving quarterback Freddie Kitchens' 50.3 completion percentage and reducing his 14 interceptions.

Catalyst: Alabama can start preparing immediately for Oct. 18. On that day, the Crimson Tide has a date with Tennessee in Birmingham, and they figure to be 5-0 after disposing of Houston, Vanderbilt, Arkansas, Southern Mississippi and Kentucky.

Can't Win Without: Rebuilding a linebacking corps that lost all three starters. Only Paul Pickett started more than once last year.

Line of Succession: After Bryant stepped down, Ray Perkins, Bill Curry and Gene Stallings all came to Tuscaloosa with losing records as head coaches, and all left as winners.

1996 Results: 10-3 (6-2 SEC)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 6/26; defense 4/22; placekicker

Miami 15



Mark Graham

"There are some tough times ahead in terms of numbers," coach Butch Davis says. He means the effect of NCAA scholarship cuts, but he might have been talking about Miami's defense, which returns only three starters from a unit that finished in the Top 20 nationally in two categories. Despite the heavy losses, Davis thinks the 'Canes have a chance to be pretty good on defense. The Hurricanes went 8-3 and 9-3 in Davis' first two years and tied for the Big East championship both times. The offense shouldn't be a problem with quarterback Ryan Clement, who was among the national leaders in passing efficiency a year ago, and at least four capable tailbacks. If there is a question mark on offense, it concerns the health of wideouts Jammi German and Omar Rolle, who are coming off knee injuries that sidelined them all of last season.

Catalyst: Miami has shared the Big East title the last two seasons, but Virginia Tech has been the league's representative in an Alliance bowl both times. The Carquest Bowl (Miami beat Virginia 31-21) had barely ended when quarterback Ryan Clement was talking about a New Year's bowl following the 1997 campaign.

Can't Win Without: Finding three new starters at linebacker from a group that has "height, speed and are probably bigger than the group of guys that played there the last 2-3 years," Davis says.

Dynasty: Over the last 14 seasons, Miami has the second-best record in college football — 143-25 (.8511) to Nebraska's 146-25-1 (.8517) — including four national championships.

1996 Results: 9-3 (6-1 Big East)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 8/18; defense 3/14; dual-purpose kicker

16 Michigan



Steve Woltmann

Michigan's string of 22 consecutive bowl appearances is second to Nebraska's 28. It probably won't happen, but it's possible that Michigan's streak will end this year. The Wolverines play one of the nation's toughest schedules, starting with home games against Colorado and Notre Dame, and concluding with another tough trio of opponents in Wisconsin, Penn State and Ohio State, the first two on the road.

"There's a certain level of excitement when you play this caliber of competition," coach Lloyd Carr says. "I don't think we'll have any problem getting ready to play at a high emotional level." On offense, Michigan returns all its skill position people — quarterbacks Scott Dreisbach and Brian Griese, and tailbacks Clarence Williams and Chris Howard — but must replace three interior linemen. Cornerback Charles Woodson is Michigan's top honors candidate.

Catalyst: Michigan hasn't been to the Rose Bowl since the 1992 season. The last time the Wolverines went four years without a trip to Pasadena was from 1965-68.

Can't Win Without: Adequately replacing three members of an offensive line that started every game last season. Michigan ranked as high as fifth in the Big Ten in only one of the four major offensive categories (passing) and was seventh in scoring.

Just Win, Baby: When Michigan entertains Notre Dame on Sept. 27, it will match the two winningest major-college programs. Michigan has won 764 games and Notre Dame 746, but Notre Dame never lets you forget that Michigan has played nine more seasons of football.

1996 Results: 8-4 (5-3 Big Ten)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 8/22; defense 8/24; dual-purpose kicker

Wisconsin 17



Steve Woltmann

The Badgers return all their skill-position starters on offense, including the fantastic freshman of 1996, tailback Ron Dayne. But they return only one full-time starter on the offensive line and just one regular on the defensive line. Wisconsin will be a young team, but Dayne proved last year that youth will be served. The 261-pound bruiser rushed for 1,863 regular-season yards (an all-time record for a freshman) and set four other NCAA marks. He needs 1,601 yards to become Wisconsin's career rushing leader. "This year, particularly with a young line, we need to be a little more balanced (offensively)," coach Barry Alvarez says. "I am confident that we can establish the run again, but it's important to capitalize on the strengths of (wide receivers Tony) Simmons and (Donald) Hayes." Good news: Wisconsin doesn't play Ohio State. Bad news: The last three games are against Iowa, Michigan and Penn State.

Catalyst: The Badgers hope that a season-opening win over Big East tri-champ (with Virginia Tech and Miami) Syracuse in the Kickoff Classic will propel them to a great year.

Can't Win Without: Another big-time effort from Dayne, the 200-yard man. Dayne set an NCAA record by rushing for 628 yards in consecutive games and set freshman records for rushing yards, rushing attempts, rushing attempts in a game and 200-yard games (four, plus the Copper Bowl). "W" means Wisconsin — and Wins: The 24 departed senior lettermen formed the winningest group in school history (30-14-4) and won three bowl games in as many tries.

1996 Results: 8-5 (3-5 Big Ten)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 6/16; defense 6/20; no kickers



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18 Texas A&M



Pat O'Malley

The 1996 season was quite a comeuppance — or, if you prefer, a comedown — for Texas A&M. After dominating the now-defunct Southwest Conference for most of the period from 1985-95, winning six conference crowns and only once winning fewer than eight games, the Aggies found the fledgling Big 12 somewhat tougher, although two of their four conference losses were by three points. On

offense, the Aggies lost only a center and a wide receiver. Quarterback Brannon Stewart has played a year in the system after transferring from Tennessee, and the Aggies are deep at running back, so the offense should be improved. The schedule lends itself to a quick getaway with Sam Houston State, Southwestern Louisiana and North Texas the first opponents.

Catalyst: Because the Aggies played in a preseason game (the Pigskin Classic) and lost, they couldn't go to a bowl. Had the Aggies not played Brigham Young (a 41-37 defeat), they would have had a winning record and been eligible for a bowl. That still sticks in A&M's craw.

Can't Win Without: Returning to the "Wrecking Crew" style of defense. After finishing in the top three in total defense in the SWC for 11 straight years, the Aggies were fourth in the Big 12. The talent level, size and experience on the defensive line aren't what A&M is used to.

Half-Grand: Texas A&M is one of only two schools (Missouri is the other) to have four running backs rush for 500 yards last season. Sirr Parker led the Aggies with 704, D'Andre Hardeman had 669, Danté Hall 642 and Eric Bernard 598.

1996 Results: 6-6 (4-4 Big 12)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 9/24; defense 6/17; both kickers

Iowa

19



David Preston

Iowa has won 17 games over the past two seasons, including two in pressive bowl victories, and finished in the Top 25. More of the same should be in store for a team whose only Big Ten losses were to co-champions Ohio State and Northwestern. The Hawkeyes were fortunate in keeping their starting lineup intact most of last season. Eight of the 11 offensive regulars and nine on defense started all 12 games. The same 11 defensive players started the final 10 games. "We didn't lose a lot of players, but we lost a lot of quality and leadership," says Hayden Fry, who has coached more games than any other Division I-A mentor (397). The Hawkeyes lost four first-team all-conference players, but have some outstanding returnees in quarterback Matt Sherman, wide receiver/kick returner Tim Dwight and defensive tackle Jared DeVries.

Catalyst: For the second year in a row, Iowa ended the season with three impressive wins: Wisconsin, Minnesota and Texas Tech. The momentum from 1995 carried over to a fast start last season; the Hawkeyes hope the same holds true this year.

Can't Win Without: Explosive wide receiver/kick returner Tim Dwight, whose 440 yards in punt returns broke the record of 322 set by the legendary Nile Kinnick in 1937, Iowa's oldest individual record. Kinnick won the Heisman Trophy in 1939 and Iowa's stadium is named after him. Dwight also led the Hawkeyes with 51 receptions for 751 yards and four touchdowns.

Remember the Alamo Bowl: Iowa set or tied 11 Alamo Bowl records in trouncing Texas Tech 27-0.

1996 Results: 9-3 (6-2 Big Ten)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 7/15; defense 7/14; placekicker

20 Stanford



Peter Brouillet

Who better than coach Tyrone Willingham to preview the 1997 Stanford Cardinal? "We have a chance to be a very good football team this season. We return experienced players who have had success and know how to win football games. On the defensive line, three starters return. We have two outstanding inside linebackers. I'm extremely excited about the four running backs we have back. Chad Hutchinson

improved greatly at quarterback over the course of last season. Damon Dunn and Troy Walters are breakaway threats at the receiver spots. On the offensive line, we did lose two very good players, but there are still several guys who have played a lot of football for Stanford. We must improve on the offensive line — and we think we can."

Catalyst: Only once has Stanford gone to a bowl game in three consecutive years (1933-34-35). The Cardinal has a chance to do it again, and that's the team's goal for 1997.

Can't Win Without: Dangerous Damon Dunn has the ability to hurt opposing defenses in several ways. His 1,384 yards and three touchdowns on kickoff returns (one in each of the last three seasons) are school records and his 26.6 career average ranks second. He also was Stanford's second-leading receiver and has scored seven career touchdowns: two on receptions, three on kickoff returns and two on reverses.

Double Play: John Elway did it, so why can't Chad Hutchinson? Did what? Played football and baseball at Stanford. However, the last player before Hutchinson to start a game at quarterback and play on the baseball team was Brian Johnson, currently a catcher for the Detroit Tigers.

1996 Results: 7-5 (5-3 Pac-10)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 6/16; defense 6/18; both kickers

UCLA

21



Peter Brouillet

There's an old, old country song which begins, "T for Texas, T for Tennessee." Might have been written about UCLA's schedule, which shows Tennessee and Texas among the first three opponents. Motivation enough to be ready early. The Bruins were 5-6 in Bob Toledo's first season as head coach but were two points away from a winning season (a 21-20 loss to Stanford). On offense, the key performer is tailback Skip Hicks, while on defense, free safety Shaun Williams, cornerback Javelin Guidry and linebackers Brian Willmer and Danjuan Magee lead the returnees. Quarterback Cade McNown will operate behind an offer sive line that returns intact.

Catalyst: UCLA concluded the 1996 campaign with a come-from-behind, 48-41 double-overtime victory over USC. UCLA scored 17 points in the final 6:12 of regulation to tie the game. The Bruins went on to defeat USC for the sixth year in a row, the longest streak for either team. It made for a nice off-season.

Can't Win Without: Quarterback Cade McNown burst onto the scene as a true freshman in 1995 and has started 19 straight games. He is the only Bruin to pass for more than 355 yards twice in a career, and his 29 completions against USC have been bettered only by Troy Aikman.

Holy Toledo: UCLA head coach Bob Toledo is 6-0 in the UCLA-USC series — 3-0 as a USC assistant (1976-78), 2-0 as UCLA's offensive coordinator (1994-95) and 1-0 as the Bruins' head coach.

1996 Results: 5-6 (4-4 Pac-10)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 9/24; defense 6/23; punter

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22 Clemson



Mike Moore

The numbers at the end of the 1996 season weren't to Clemson's liking: consecutive three-point losses to South Carolina and then LSU in the Peach Bowl. The 1997 numbers include a record 54 lettermen, among them: career-rushing leader Raymond Priester; QB Nealon Greene, No. 4 on Clemson's total-offense list; Jim Bundren and Glenn Rountree, the first tackle-guard duo to start every game as a freshman, sophomore and junior; junior linebacker Anthony Simmons, the No. 6 career tackler; five of the top six tacklers from the 1996 team that recorded a school-record 46 sacks; and five players who were first- or second-team All-ACC. Clemson returns players responsible for 70 percent of the rushing, 100 percent of the passing and 74 percent of the receiving yards. Defensively, the Tigers should be strong in the front seven, which held LSU's Kevin Faulk to 2.8 yards per rush in the Peach Bowl.

Catalyst: If Clemson has designs on the ACC championship — and the Tigers do — the schedule couldn't have worked out better. Florida State, North Carolina and Virginia all come to Death Valley.

Can't Win Without: Linebacker Anthony Simmons had at least 11 tackles in every game and set a single-season mark with 178. In two seasons, he is sixth on the school's all-time list with 328 tackles and is the only Clemson player to reach 300 tackles in 23 games.

How High Is Up?: Improvement has been evident throughout Tommy West's three full seasons as Clemson's head coach. The Tigers finished fifth in the ACC in 1994, third in 1995 and tied for second last year.

1996 Results: 7-5 (6-2 ACC)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 8/31; defense 6/23; both kickers

Syracuse 23



John Sandhaus

Last year, coach Paul Pasqualoni said Syracuse was "a couple of years away." Could he be right? The Orangemen return only six starters on offense and four from a defensive unit that ranked 10th nationally in total defense and 11th in rushing and passing defense. The majority of the holes are on defense, where only one starting lineman, one linebacker and two defensive backs return. Fortunately, they include two of the best in the Big East, linebacker Antwaune Ponds and free safety Donovan Darius. Pasqualoni's pro-option offense also has two of the best, quarterback Donovan McNabb and fullback Rob Konrad. A key will be how well Kyle McIntosh can replace Malcolm Thomas at tailback. Jim Turner is a dangerous long-distance kickoff returner and wide receiver. Three all-star candidates return to the offensive line.

Catalyst: Syracuse has lost its last three home openers. The Orangemen entertain North Carolina State on Aug. 30 after playing Wisconsin in the Kickoff Classic.

Can't Win Without: Quarterback Donovan McNabb. He shared Big East Player of the Year honors with Virginia Tech's Jim Druckenmiller. In 1995, McNabb was a unanimous pick for Big East Rookie of the Year honors and set an NCAA record for passing efficiency by a freshman.

Bowl Roll: By defeating Houston 30-17 in the Liberty Bowl, Syracuse improved its all-time bowl record to 10-6-1. The Orangemen have won their last seven bowl games since a 16-16 tie with Auburn in the Jan. 1, 1988, Sugar Bowl. The seven wins represent the longest current streak.

1996 Results: 9-3 (6-1 Big East)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 6/16; defense 4/10; placekicker

24 USC



Paul Jasienicki

According to coach John Robinson, this is a "prove it" year for Southern California. For the first time in 11 seasons under Robinson, the Trojans failed to win at least eight games. They did end an 0-12-1 drought against Notre Dame but lost to UCLA for the sixth year in a row. "This team has potential, but we must prove it by our play," Robinson says. "This team doesn't have any obvious

strength or any obvious weakness. It also doesn't have any obvious star. So leadership and cohesive team play are the ingredients that will drive this team." Beg your pardon, coach, but you do have a star: cornerback Daylon McCutcheon, whom you yourself call "a special player." Nevertheless, the defense has big holes at linebacker and up front. And Jim Wren is one of the nation's top punters. The offense has more depth and experience than last year.

Catalyst: If an opening game at home against Florida State isn't enough to get a team ready, what is?

Can't Win Without: Having someone step up at quarterback to replace Brad Otton. For the first time since 1991, the Trojans enter a season with no experienced quarterbacks. The contenders are sophomores Quincy Woods and John Fox, and redshirt freshman Mike Van Raaphorst.

Close Calls: The 6-6 record of 1996 wasn't as bad as it appeared. Two of the losses were in double overtime and two others by a touchdown or less to bowl-bound Stanford and California.

1996 Results: 6-6 (3-5 Pac-10)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 8/18; defense 6/20; both kickers

BYU 25



Peter Brouillet

You may not have heard of Paul Shoe-maker or Kevin Feterik. Chances are you will before too long. One or the other figures to be Brigham Young's starting quarterback this year, and BYU's list of quarterbacks reads like a Who's Who at the position; for example, Ty Detmer, Jim McMahon, Robbie Bosco, John Walsh and Steve Young are the top five in career passing. Between them, Shoe-maker and Feterik threw only 18 passes last year. But they completed 12 (that's 66.7 percent) for 99 yards and three touchdowns. Coach LaVell Edwards' ball-control passing game, which actually was the West Coast Offense before someone dreamed up that misnomer, would be strong with a sportswriter at the controls. However, Edwards must replace both starting wide receivers and two exceptional tight ends. The defense returns nine starters, led by cornerback Omarr Morgan.

Catalyst: A schedule that starts with Washington, the Pac-10 favorite, and follows with Arizona State, the defending Pac-10 champ. If BYU wins those games, it may not have to sue the Bowl Alliance to get in.

Can't Win Without: Coach LaVell Edwards, whose granite face belongs on Mount Rushmore. In 25 seasons as BYU's head coach, Edwards has compiled a record of 228-81-3.

And Counting: The Cougars put a couple of NCAA-record streaks on the line every time they take the field: 275 games without being shut out, and scoring a touchdown in 131 straight games. The last time BYU failed to score was in a 20-0 loss to Arizona State in 1975.

1996 Results: 14-1 (8-0 WAC)

Ret. Starters/Lettermen: Offense 6/22; defense 9/27; no kickers

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conference predictions

ACC

1. North Carolina
2. Florida State
3. Clemson
4. Virginia
5. Georgia Tech
6. N.C. State
7. Maryland
8. Wake Forest
9. Duke

Big 12

NORTH

1. Nebraska
2. Colorado
3. Kansas State
4. Missouri
5. Kansas
6. Iowa State

SOUTH

1. Texas
2. Texas A&M
3. Texas Tech
4. Oklahoma
5. Baylor
6. Oklahoma State

Pac-10

1. Washington
2. Stanford
3. UCLA
4. USC
5. Arizona State
6. Washington St.
7. Arizona
8. Oregon
9. California
10. Oregon State

Big East

1. Miami
2. Syracuse
3. West Virginia
4. Virginia Tech
5. Boston College
6. Pittsburgh
7. Rutgers
8. Temple

Big West

1. Nevada
2. Utah State
3. Idaho
4. North Texas
5. Boise State
6. New Mexico St.

C-USA

1. East Carolina
2. Southern Miss
3. Louisville
4. Cincinnati
5. Houston
6. Memphis
7. Tulane

SEC

EAST

1. Florida
2. Tennessee
3. Georgia
4. Vanderbilt
5. South Carolina
6. Kentucky

WEST

1. LSU
2. Auburn
3. Alabama
4. Mississippi St.
5. Arkansas
6. Ole Miss

Big 10

1. Penn State
2. Ohio State
3. Michigan
4. Wisconsin
5. Iowa
6. Northwestern
7. Michigan State
8. Purdue
9. Illinois
10. Minnesota
11. Indiana

MAC

EAST

1. Miami (Ohio)
2. Bowling Green
3. Marshall
4. Ohio
5. Akron
6. Kent

WEST

1. Toledo
2. Central Michigan
3. Eastern Michigan
4. Ball State
5. Western Michigan
6. Northern Illinois

WAC

MOUNTAIN

1. BYU
2. Rice
3. Utah
4. New Mexico
5. Tulsa
6. TCU
7. SMU
8. UTEP

PACIFIC

1. Colorado State
2. San Diego St.
3. Fresno State
4. Wyoming
5. Air Force
6. Hawaii
7. UNLV
8. San Jose State



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Steve Woltmann

Peyton Manning

Preseason All-America Teams

For the second year in a row, Peyton's place is at the top of the preseason All-America list.

That collective groan you heard back in March when quarterback Peyton Manning announced he would return to the University of Tennessee for his senior season came from (1) coaches who have Tennessee on their 1997 schedule and (2) the other quarterbacks in the country who had just seen their All-America dreams disappear.

Not every coach who has to face Manning was unhappy with his decision, believe it or not.

"This is really good for college football," said South Carolina's Brad Scott. "Too often, young players leave early for the pros. Maybe this will set a trend around the country."

Not very likely. Manning, who might have been the first pick in the NFL draft, knows the money will be there next year, and he undoubtedly has a lucrative insurance policy that will hardly leave him destitute in the event of injury this fall.

"I enjoy the college experience" was the way Manning explained his decision. "I want to be around Tennessee another year. I think it will make me a better player for the NFL."

In case you hadn't noticed, five of the first seven draft selections were players who gave up their final seasons, hoping somebody would show them the money.

Don't ever confuse the All-America team with the NFL draft. For example:

- Heisman Trophy winner Danny Wuerffel of Florida lasted until the fourth round, and 98 players were drafted before him.
- Wyoming's Marcus Harris, the most prolific receiver ever, wasn't taken until the seventh and last round.
- Do you really win with defense? All-America cornerback Ronde Barber of Virginia went in the third round, All-America linebacker Matt Russell of Colorado in the fourth round and All-America defensive end Cornell Brown of Virginia Tech and All-America outside linebacker Canute Curtis of West Virginia in round six.

Even without the early departures, Manning doesn't lack for quality company on Athlon's 1997 All-America team.

Ron Dayne



Steve Wolmann

QUARTERBACKS

Peyton Manning, Tennessee

Manning already has obliterated Tennessee career records for passing yardage (by 985 yards), completions (by 62) and touchdown passes (by 17). Last year, he became the first Tennessee player to throw for more than 3,000 yards in a season (3,287). Owns 19 Tennessee records and has three of the top seven passing games in school history. Completed the 1996 campaign by winning Citrus Bowl MVP honors after throwing for 408 yards (the second-best game of his career) and four touchdowns against Northwestern. Also ran 10 yards for a touchdown.

Second Team

Donovan McNabb, Syracuse

Third Team

Daunte Culpepper, Central Florida

RUNNING BACKS

Ron Dayne, Wisconsin

They call this 261-pounder "Great" Dayne and little wonder. Another season like last year, when he was the most prolific freshman in college football history, and Dayne might become the first sophomore to win the Heisman Trophy. In 1996, he rushed for 2,109 yards (including 246 against Utah in the Copper Bowl) and 21 touchdowns despite not getting his first start until the fifth game. His 1,863 regular-season yards (the NCAA doesn't include

bowl games in official statistics) shattered the freshman record of 1,616 set by Georgia's Herschel Walker in 1980, and his average of 162.2 yards a game broke the Wisconsin record of 136.4 by Brent Moss in 1993. Dayne's 289 yards against Illinois and 339 against Hawaii broke the national collegiate record for most yards in consecutive games (628). Rushed for 1,231 yards in five November games, more than nine of the nation's top 25 rushers had for the entire season.

Ricky Williams, Texas

An overpowering, speedy and versatile back who moves to tailback after spending his first two seasons at fullback. One of the most explosive runners in Texas history, whose 1,272 yards last year make him the top returning ground-gainer in the Big 12.

Nicknamed "Little Earl" after Texas' 1977 Heisman Trophy winner Earl Campbell (he broke Campbell's freshman rushing record

in 1995 with 990 yards). Ranks ninth on the school's career list with 2,262 yards and averages 6.1 per carry. Of those 2,262 yards, 1,538 have come after contact. Led Big 12 backs in receiving with 25 catches and also has developed into a devastating blocker. A two-sport athlete who plays minor league baseball in the Philadelphia Phillies' organization.

Second Team

Curtis Enis, Penn State

Kevin Faulk, LSU

Third Team

Pepe Pearson, Ohio State

Scott Harley, East Carolina

RECEIVERS

Jacquez Green, Florida

Florida's new main man with the departure of Ike Hilliard and Reidel Anthony. Has 52 career receptions for 1,157 yards (22.3 average) and 14 touchdowns, and 13 rushes for 114 yards (8.8) and two TDs. Has averaged 17.4 yards for every time he has touched the ball, which includes receptions, rushes, kickoff returns and punt returns. Tied an NCAA record with two

First Team All-America

OFFENSE

WR	David Saunders	6-2	205	Jr.	West Virginia
WR	Jacquez Green	5-9	168	Jr.	Florida
TE	Alonzo Mayes	6-3	274	Sr.	Oklahoma State
OL	Mike Rosenthal	6-7	315	Jr.	Notre Dame
OL	Aaron Taylor	6-1	305	Sr.	Nebraska
OL	Benji Olson	6-4	310	Jr.	Washington
OL	Matt Stinchcomb	6-7	280	Jr.	Georgia
OL	Kyle Turley	6-6	305	Sr.	San Diego State
QB	Peyton Manning	6-6	222	Sr.	Tennessee
RB	Ricky Williams	6-0	220	Jr.	Texas
RB	Ron Dayne	5-10	261	So.	Wisconsin

DEFENSE

DL	Leonard Little	6-3	247	Sr.	Tennessee
DL	Greg Ellis	6-6	265	Sr.	North Carolina
DL	Michael Myers	6-3	270	Sr.	Alabama
DL	Grant Wistrom	6-5	250	Sr.	Nebraska
LB	Daryl Bush	6-2	235	Sr.	Florida State
LB	Andy Katzenmoyer	6-4	250	So.	Ohio State
LB	Anthony Simmons	6-1	225	Jr.	Clemson
DB	Dré Bly	5-10	180	So.	North Carolina
DB	Charles Woodson	6-1	197	Jr.	Michigan
DB	Tony Parrish	5-11	205	Sr.	Washington
DB	Daylon McCutcheon	5-11	175	Jr.	USC

SPECIALISTS

KR	Damon Dunn	5-10	180	Sr.	Stanford
PR	Tim Dwight	5-9	185	Sr.	Iowa
K	Phil Dawson	5-11	193	Sr.	Texas
P	Jim Wren	6-0	220	Sr.	USC

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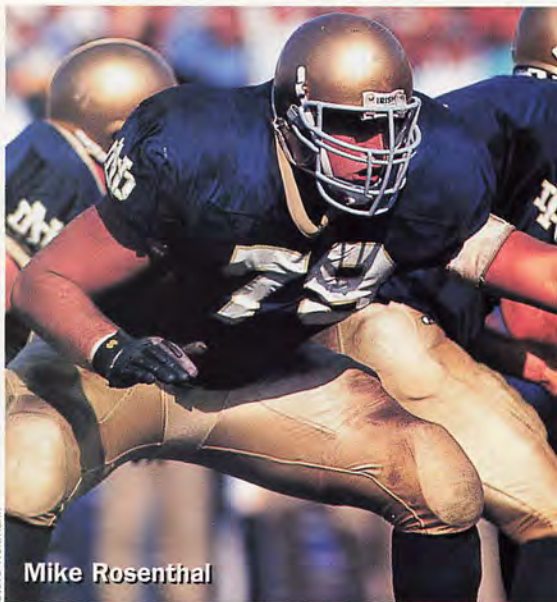
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Steve Weitzmann

Mike Rosenthal

punt returns for touchdowns (66 and 79 yards) against Kentucky. Blocked three punts in '95, tying a school record.

David Saunders, West Virginia

Leading receiver in the Big East. Set school records with 67 catches for 913 yards, then added nine catches for 130 yards against North Carolina in the Gator Bowl and earned Most Valuable Player honors. His 191 yards against Boston College was the second-most receiving yardage in West Virginia history.

Second Team

D'Wayne Bates, Northwestern

Kevin Dyson, Utah

Third Team

E.G. Green, Florida State

Bobby Shaw, California

TIGHT ENDS

Alonzo Mayes, Oklahoma State

Gives the Cowboys one of the most dangerous weapons in the country with his size (6-3, 274), tremendous hands and outstanding blocking ability. In 10 games last year, Mayes caught 30 passes for 512 yards (17.1 average) and three touchdowns. Consensus All-Big 12 selection. Led Oklahoma State with 32 receptions in 1995.

Second Team

Jerame Tuman, Michigan

Third Team

Stephen Alexander, Oklahoma

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Benji Olson, Washington

Dubbed the "Road Grader" by coach Jim Lambright for his ability to plow a hole for

Washington's running backs. "He has the ability to move whoever is there," Lambright says. Named to several All-America teams last year as a sophomore. Has started the last 24 games at guard. Took top honors at the offensive line's annual "all you can eat" rib-eating contest by downing a record 65 ribs.

Mike Rosenthal, Notre Dame

Was playing like an All-American in 1996 until he missed a month of the season with a broken ankle. Then had arthroscopic surgery in January to repair a dislocated left shoulder. As a

prepster, was named Player of the Year in Indiana by *USA TODAY*. Gave up only one sack in 2½ seasons of high school football.

Matt Stinchcomb, Georgia

Started all 11 games in 1996. Named to

the Southeastern Conference's Good Works Team, which recognizes the players who have devoted themselves to outstanding community service. One of the best young linemen in the SEC whose 3.8 GPA earned him a spot on the Academic All-America district team. Has been a starter since late in his true freshman year of 1995. Consistently grades the best of Georgia's offensive linemen. Regarded by his coaches as a pro prospect.

Aaron Taylor, Nebraska

First Nebraska player to earn All-America honors at two positions: guard in 1995 and center in 1996, when he replaced 1995 All-America Aaron Graham. Was named a 1996 preseason All-American at center before ever having snapped a single ball. Moving back to guard in 1997. Semifinalist for both the Outland Trophy and the Lombardi Award. Explosive blocking ability. Had a career-high 17 pancake blocks three times in 1995 and against Texas last year in the Big 12 championship game. Averaged 11.6 pancakes a game in 1994 and 9.4 last year.

Second Team All-America

OFFENSE

WR	D'Wayne Bates	6-2	211	Sr.	Northwestern
WR	Kevin Dyson	6-1	197	Sr.	Utah
TE	Jerame Tuman	6-5	233	Jr.	Michigan
OL	Alan Faneca	6-5	310	Jr.	LSU
OL	Jim Bundren	6-3	290	Sr.	Clemson
OL	Jeff Saturday	6-3	290	Sr.	North Carolina
OL	Jamar Nesbit	6-4	303	Jr.	South Carolina
OL	Kyle Murphy	6-4	298	Sr.	Arizona State
QB	Donovan McNabb	6-2	213	Jr.	Syracuse
RB	Curtis Enis	6-1	230	Jr.	Penn State
RB	Kevin Faulk	5-10	192	Jr.	LSU

DEFENSE

DL	Jason Chorak	6-5	260	Sr.	Washington
DL	Chris Akins	6-1	295	Sr.	Texas
DL	Joe Salave'a	6-4	280	Sr.	Arizona
DL	Jason Peter	6-5	285	Sr.	Nebraska
LB	Dat Nguyen	6-1	213	Jr.	Texas A&M
LB	Brian Simmons	6-4	230	Sr.	North Carolina
LB	Jamie Duncan	6-1	235	Sr.	Vanderbilt
DB	Ryan Black	5-10	190	Sr.	Colorado
DB	Patrick Surtain	6-0	186	Sr.	Southern Miss
DB	Martavius Houston	6-1	219	Jr.	Auburn
DB	Anthony Poindexter	6-1	202	Jr.	Virginia

SPECIALISTS

KR	Pat Johnson	5-10	170	Sr.	Oregon
PR	Allen Rossum	5-8	179	Sr.	Notre Dame
K	Cory Wedel	5-9	190	Sr.	Wyoming
P	Jesse Kosch	6-0	185	Sr.	Nebraska

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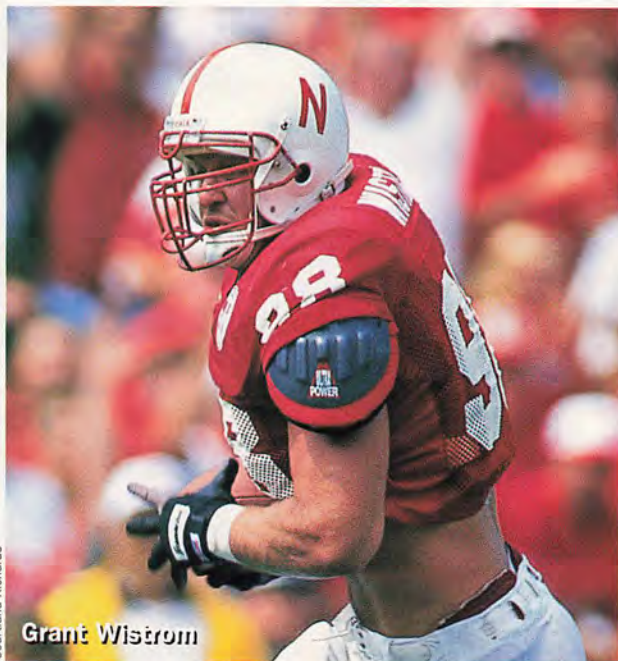
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Courtland Richards

Grant Wistrom

Kyle Turley, San Diego State

All-WAC performer who has an outstanding work ethic and great strength and quickness for his size (6-6, 305). Blocked for 1,000-yard rushers Wayne Pittman in 1994 and George Jones in '95. Graded out at over 90 percent in every game last year and has allowed only 5.5 sacks in the last two seasons. Will be a starter for the fourth straight year.

Second Team

Alan Faneca, LSU
Jim Bundren, Clemson
Jeff Saturday, North Carolina
Jamar Nesbit, South Carolina
Kyle Murphy, Arizona State

Third Team

Jason Fabini, Cincinnati
Melvin Thomas, Colorado
Kevin Long, Florida State
David Davis, Baylor
Olin Kreutz, Washington

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Greg Ellis, North Carolina

Two-time, All-Atlantic Coast Conference selection. Just a half-sack away from North Carolina's career record of 24 set by Marcus Jones, former All-American and 1996 first-round NFL draft pick. Posted one of the best seasons by a defensive lineman in Carolina history in '96; 12½ sacks (only the great Lawrence Taylor with 16 had more), 18 tackles for loss and 62 total tackles. Had at least one tackle for loss in each of the last nine games and a sack in seven straight. Pressured the passer 38 times, the most since the statistic was first kept in 1983.

Leonard Little, Tennessee

A third-team All-American in 1996 and first-team All-Southeastern Conference choice despite a season-ending knee injury in game seven. For the season, he had 33 tackles, 8½ sacks, 11 quarterback pressures, five tackles for loss, four forced fumbles and one blocked field goal. He is fifth on Tennessee's career sack list with 19½. Little is considered one of the Vols' top all-time defensive players.

Michael Myers, Alabama

Came to Alabama in 1996 as a junior-college All-American and became a Division I-A All-American as well, with 66 tackles, 13 sacks and eight other stops

behind the line. Played 41 snaps in the season opener and started every game thereafter. Had nine tackles against both Vanderbilt and Mississippi State. A junior college All-American in 1994 and 1995 at Hinds J.C. in Mississippi.

Grant Wistrom, Nebraska

Returning consensus All-American who made the final five for the Bronko Nagurski Award as Defensive Player of the Year. Pass rusher extraordinaire who led the Cornhuskers with 9½ sacks and 20 tackles for loss a year ago. Also had 15 quarterback hurries, causing four interceptions. Needs four tackles for loss to break the career record of 45 set by 1993 All-American Trev Alberts. Good student who has a 3.488 GPA in pre-pharmacy.

Second Team

Jason Chorak, Washington
Chris Akins, Texas
Joe Salave'a, Arizona
Jason Peter, Nebraska

Third Team

Jared DeVries, Iowa
Ryan Olson, Colorado
Ed Chester, Florida
Chuck Wiley, LSU

Third Team All-America

OFFENSE

WR	E.G. Green	5-11	190	Sr.	Florida State
WR	Bobby Shaw	6-1	190	Sr.	California
TE	Stephen Alexander	6-4	244	Sr.	Oklahoma
OL	Jason Fabini	6-7	320	Sr.	Cincinnati
OL	Melvin Thomas	6-3	305	Sr.	Colorado
OL	Kevin Long	6-5	290	Sr.	Florida State
OL	David Davis	6-4	308	Sr.	Baylor
OL	Olin Kreutz	6-4	290	Jr.	Washington
QB	Daunte Culpepper	6-5	235	Jr.	Central Florida
RB	Pepe Pearson	5-10	206	Sr.	Ohio State
RB	Scott Harley	5-10	200	Jr.	East Carolina

DEFENSE

DL	Jared DeVries	6-4	265	Jr.	Iowa
DL	Ryan Olson	6-2	280	Sr.	Colorado
DL	Ed Chester	6-4	274	Jr.	Florida
DL	Chuck Wiley	6-4	274	Sr.	LSU
LB	Takeo Spikes	6-2	228	Jr.	Auburn
LB	Keith Brooking	6-3	240	Sr.	Georgia Tech
LB	Aaron Collins	6-0	222	Sr.	Penn State
DB	Chris McAlister	6-2	185	Jr.	Arizona
DB	Omarr Morgan	5-10	160	Sr.	BYU
DB	Tony Darden	6-0	196	Sr.	Texas Tech
DB	Deshea Townsend	5-10	180	Sr.	Alabama

SPECIALISTS

KR	John Avery	5-10	180	Sr.	Mississippi
PR	Dante Hall	5-9	180	So.	Texas A&M
K	Damon Shea	5-10	180	Jr.	Nevada
P	Jason Bloom	6-5	185	Jr.	New Mexico

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NATH





Andy Katzenmoyer

LINEBACKERS

Daryl Bush, Florida State

Extremely intelligent and physical player. A two-time Butkus Award semifinalist who will start for a fourth season at middle linebacker. Also an Academic All-American who has never made anything lower than a "B" in any class at any level of schooling. His GPA in Florida State's School of Business is 3.9-plus, and he received the Jim Tatum Award as the outstanding football student-athlete in the Atlantic Coast Conference. Has already received his degree and will be playing this fall as a graduate student. Was second on the nation's top rushing defense with 101 tackles.

Andy Katzenmoyer, Ohio State

Started all 12 games as a true freshman (the first Ohio State linebacker to do so) and finished third with 85 tackles (just four behind the team leader). Had 23 tackles for loss, the second-highest total in school history and most ever by a freshman, and 12 sacks. Led the Buckeyes in tackles four times in games and tied a school record with five tackles for loss in the Rose Bowl win over Arizona State. Also had four interceptions.

Anthony Simmons, Clemson

Only the second player in Clemson history to earn All-ACC honors as a freshman and sophomore. Clemson's top tackler with a school-record 178 last season and the top tackler in 10 of 12 games. His 15 tackles per game led the ACC. Already in the Clemson Top 10 in tackles with 328 after only two seasons, more than halfway to the school record of 515. First player in Clemson history to reach 300 tackles in 23 games. Has 27 tackles for loss in 24 games; no Clemson linebacker has averaged a tackle for loss per game over a career. Named National Freshman of the Year by UPI in 1995. Also ACC Rookie of the Year. Did not play football until the age of 15.

Second Team

Dat Nguyen, Texas A&M
Brian Simmons, North Carolina
Jamie Duncan, Vanderbilt

Third Team

Takeo Spikes, Auburn
Keith Brooking, Georgia Tech
Aaron Collins, Penn State

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Dré Bly, North Carolina

What can this young man do for an

encore after becoming the first freshman to earn consensus All-America honors in ACC history? Finalist for the Jim Thorpe Award as national Defensive Back of the Year. Second-leading vote-getter on the All-ACC team behind Florida State defensive end Peter Boulware. Led the nation with an ACC-record 11 interceptions (six more than any other player in the conference and three more than anyone else in the country) and is the only player in ACC history to average an interception a game in an 11-game regular season. Also broke up 13 passes, third-highest total in school history. Added two interceptions against West Virginia in the Gator Bowl.

Daylon McCutcheon, Southern California

"A special player," says coach John Robinson. "He can develop into one of the great USC football players ever. He has all the skills of an outstanding cornerback: speed, instinct, toughness and great cover ability." Will start for the third year in a row. Talented enough to make an impact as a return specialist and, if needed, on offense. His father, Lawrence, was an All-Pro running back who played with the Los Angeles Rams, Denver Broncos and Buffalo Bills, and once held the Rams' career-rushing record.

Tony Parrish, Washington

Named Washington's most improved player in 1996. Took over for All-America free safety Lawyer Milloy, who left a year early for the NFL. Third on the team with 71 tackles, including 13 against Pac-10 champ Arizona State. Caused fumbles against Oregon State and San Jose, and recovered fumbles against Stanford, UCLA, Oregon and USC. Returned an interception 45 yards for a touchdown against Arizona.

Charles Woodson, Michigan

Excellent cover cornerback who runs very well. Earned Big Ten Freshman of the Year honors in 1996. Possesses the tools to be one of Michigan's all-time secondary standouts. Also has had an impact as a receiver on offense (he started as both a wide receiver and defensive back against Colorado). Has 13 takeaways (10 interceptions, three fumble recoveries) in 25 career games. Fourth in Michigan history with 20 pass breakups. Chevrolet Defensive Player of the Year. Finalist for the Jim Thorpe Award.

Second Team

Ryan Black, Colorado



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Mike Moore

Dré Bly

Patrick Surtain, Southern Miss
Martavius Houston, Auburn
Anthony Poindexter, Virginia

Third Team

Tony Darden, Texas Tech
Chris McAlister, Arizona
Omarr Morgan, BYU
Deshea Townsend, Alabama

PLACEKICKERS

Phil Dawson, Texas

Extremely powerful leg and a reliable clutch performer who overcame reconstructive knee surgery in February 1996. Second on Texas' all-time scoring and kick-scoring charts with 274 points, including a school-record 108 by kicking last year. Second in

school history with six field goals of 50 or more yards. Made 19-of-24 field goals last season and 46-of-63 for his career, including 6-of-11 from 50 yards or longer. As a high school senior, he kicked a 53-yarder with three seconds left to win a game and a 52-yarder on the final play to win a playoff game.

Second Team

Cory Wedel, Wyoming

Third Team

Damon Shea, Nevada

PUNTERS

Jim Wren, Southern California

Strong-legged punter who led the Pacific-10 Conference and set a USC

record a year ago by averaging 45.6 yards. Enrolled at USC in the spring of 1996 as a junior-college transfer (he didn't punt in 1995 while serving as an assistant coach at Servite High School in Anaheim, Calif.). Twenty-two of his 66 punts traveled 50 or more yards, including three 60-yarders and one 70-yarder, and 21 pinned opponents inside the 20-yard line. His career average of 42.3 broke the Fullerton College record set by current New York Giants punter Mike Horan.

Second Team

Jesse Kosch, Nebraska

Third Team

Jason Bloom, New Mexico

KICKOFF RETURNERS

Damon Dunn, Stanford

Stanford's all-time leader as well as its most experienced wide receiver. His 1,384 yards and three touchdowns on kickoff returns are school career records, and his 26.6-yard average per return is second. Has returned a kickoff for a touchdown in each of the past three seasons. Had 16 returns last year for 433 yards (27.1 average), including a 93-yarder against USC. Emerged as one of the nation's premier return specialists in 1995 with 19-for-539 yards (28.4 average). A member of Stanford's track team, last year he had the best time in the 100 meters (10.64) and second-fastest at 200 meters (21.54).

Second Team

Pat Johnson, Oregon

Third Team

John Avery, Mississippi

PUNT RETURNERS

Tim Dwight, Iowa

Set Iowa's punt-return record with 440 yards on 24 returns (18.3 average, second nationally). Led the Big Ten in punt returns for the second time in three seasons. Set an Alamo Bowl record with six receptions against Texas Tech. His 86-yard punt return against Ohio State is the fourth-longest in Iowa history and an 83-yarder against Penn State is the fifth-longest. Ranks 11th in career receptions and 10th in receiving yards. Holds the Big Ten record for kickoff returns in a game with nine against Ohio State in 1995. In all, he has 53 career returns for 719 yards.

Second Team

Allen Rossum, Notre Dame

Third Team

Danté Hall, Texas A&M ■

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Athlon Archives



Pat O'Malley



Selecting the highlights and lowlights of college football's last 30 seasons means considering literally thousands of games, players and coaches. Sorting through those years not only evokes great memories, it also gives new life to the spectacular teams and heroic players of the past three decades and the unforgettable moments they produced.

One thing becomes instantly clear: Time has not dimmed their feats nor has it detracted from the excitement they brought to the game. In the case of the worst moments that transpired, the years have not diminished the seriousness of the offenses that were committed.

Everyone has his own favorites, and in most instances, the truly great performers stand out. The problem is in whittling the list down to a relatively small number of items, considering all that has happened since Athlon Sports began publishing its college football annuals. That is the ultimate tribute to the richness of the sport.

by Jack Clary

From top, counterclockwise: Athlon's first edition from 1967, Jackie Sherrill, Bo Schembechler, James Street and Darrell Royal, Kordell Stewart, Barry Switzer, Steve Young, Jimmy Johnson, Gary Barnett, Johnny Rodgers.



University of Nebraska



Steve Woltmann



Athlon Archives



Athlon Archives



Athlon Archives



University of Texas

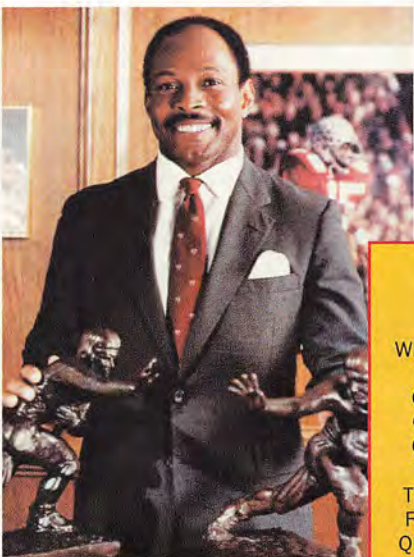


John Betancourt

The 10 Greatest Moments Of the Last 30 Years

1968 – Texas unveiled its Wishbone, or Triple Option, offensive formation. The brainchild of assistant coach Emory Belard, it was used to satisfy head coach Darrell Royal's distaste for the forward pass and to win the 1969 national title. The Wishbone became college football's pre-eminent offense of the '70s.

1975 – Ohio State running back Archie Griffin became the only player ever to win a second Heisman Trophy and also was the first one ever to graduate ahead of his class.



Archie Griffin

1976 – Pittsburgh's Tony Dorsett finished his career as the only player ever to rush for 6,000 yards (6,082) and won the Heisman Trophy while leading the Panthers to the national championship.

1979 – Southern California ended a 13-year dynasty that flourished under both John McKay and John Robinson. During that period, the Trojans compiled a 122-23-7 record with three unbeaten seasons, and captured four national titles in the process.

Nov. 28, 1981 – Paul "Bear" Bryant won his 315th game, a 28-17 come-from-behind victory over archrival Auburn, and passed Amos Alonzo Stagg as college football's all-time winningest coach. He retired in 1982 with six national championships and 323 wins, still No. 1 among Division I-A coaches.

Oct. 5, 1985 – Eddie Robinson, head football coach at Grambling since 1942, won his 324th game with a 27-7 victory over Prairie View A&M. He broke Bear Bryant's record of 323 wins and became college football's all-time winningest coach. Robinson has won 405 games and is slated to retire after the 1997 season.

1994 – Steve McNair of Alcorn State, nicknamed "Air McNair," became the most prolific yardage-gainer in college football history with a four-season total of 16,823 yards, including 14,496 passing. He averaged more than 400 passing yards per game, and he gained more than 500 yards in six of his 1994 games.

1995 – Perennial Big Ten doormat Northwestern, under coach Gary Barnett, rang up a 10-1 regular-season record, won its first Big Ten title since 1936 and made its first bowl appearance since 1949. The dream season ended with a 41-32 loss to USC in the Rose Bowl.

1996 – Nebraska posted a 95-15-1 record from 1988-96 that included a 26-game winning streak, back-to-back titles in 1994-95 and a continuing record 28 straight bowl appearances. The repeat title was the Huskers' second of the last 30 years; they had achieved that accomplishment once before, in 1970-71.

The 10 Worst Moments

1970 – Two teams, Wichita State and Marshall, suffered devastating losses in airline crashes. One of two planes carrying Wichita State's football team to a game at Utah State crashed in the mountains of Colorado and killed 31 persons, including 14 players and the head coach. The entire Marshall University football team and coaching staff were killed in a crash at Huntington, W.Va., while returning from a game at East Carolina.

Dec. 29, 1978 – Ohio State coach Woody Hayes lost his self-control and twice punched Clemson middle guard Charlie Bauman after Bauman had intercepted an Art Schlichter pass during Clemson's 17-15 victory in the Gator Bowl. Hayes, who won 205 games and three national championships at Ohio State, resigned the next day.

1987 – Southern Methodist University was handed a two-season "death penalty" by the NCAA for repeated recruiting violations. The Mustangs did not resume their program until 1989.

ATHLON SPORTS' 30-YEAR ALL-AMERICA TEAM

OFFENSE

WR	Jerry Rice	6-2	200	Miss. Valley St.	1981-84
T	Bill Fralic	6-5	285	Pittsburgh	1981-84
G	John Hannah	6-3	282	Alabama	1970-72
C	Dave Rimington	6-3	290	Nebraska	1979-82
G	Reggie McKenzie	6-4	232	Michigan	1969-71
T	Orlando Pace	6-6	320	Ohio State	1994-96
TE	Keith Jackson	6-3	248	Oklahoma	1984-87
FL	Raghib Ismail	5-10	175	Notre Dame	1988-90
QB	Danny Wuerffel	6-2	209	Florida	1993-96
RB	Tony Dorsett	5-11	192	Pittsburgh	1973-76
RB	Barry Sanders	5-11	197	Oklahoma State	1986-88
K	Tony Franklin	5-10	170	Texas A&M	1975-78

DEFENSE

E	Ted Hendricks	6-8	222	Miami	1966-68
T	Reggie White	6-5	265	Tennessee	1980-83
T	Steve Emtman	6-4	290	Washington	1989-91
E	Hugh Green	6-2	222	Pittsburgh	1977-80
LB	Lawrence Taylor	6-3	237	North Carolina	1977-80
LB	Pat Fitzgerald	6-2	243	Northwestern	1993-96
LB	Jack Ham	6-3	212	Penn State	1968-70
DB	Deion Sanders	6-0	195	Florida State	1985-88
DB	Kenny Easley	6-3	206	UCLA	1977-80
DB	Ronnie Lott	6-2	200	Southern Cal	1977-80
DB	Jack Tatum	6-0	208	Ohio State	1968-70
P	Ray Guy	6-3	195	Southern Miss	1970-72

1996 – Florida State extended to 10 seasons an amazing run in which it became the first team ever to win at least 10 games in each season while compiling a 107-14-1 record, a national championship and 10 straight Top Five poll finishes. Until their loss to Florida in last season's Sugar Bowl, coach Bobby Bowden's Seminoles had strung together 11 straight bowl wins.



Woody Hayes

1989 – Oklahoma coach Barry Switzer, who won 157 games and three national championships during his 16 years in Norman, resigned after a tenure that was peppered with incidents involving, among other things, recruiting violations, drugs, hand guns and reported physical assaults by some of his players, all of which precipitated investigations at one time or another by the NCAA, Big Eight and FBI.

Oct. 28, 1989 – University of Mississippi defensive back Roy Lee “Chucky” Mullins suffered a severe neck injury and was paralyzed while making an open-field tackle in a game against Vanderbilt. He died May 6, 1991. The Ole Miss football program presents the Chucky Mullins Courage Award each spring to a top defensive player, bestowing him with the honor of wearing Mullins’ number 38 the following season.

Oct. 6, 1990 – Colorado defeated Missouri 33–31 after getting five chances in the final 30 seconds to score from the 3-yard line. The officials had neglected to change the down marker from second to third down when, two plays later, Buffalo quarterback Charles Johnson scored from one yard out – on “fifth down.” From there, Colorado went on to win a share of the national championship.



Pat Dye

1992 – Auburn coach Pat Dye was forced to resign, and his school was placed on two years probation for providing unauthorized money to players. The illegality came to light after former player Eric Ramsey released tapes of a conversation with an assistant coach during which he negotiated a cash advance.

Sept. 25, 1993 – Miami and Colorado, during a game in Boulder, engaged in a bench-clearing brawl — the fifth time in five seasons that Hurricane players had been

involved in such a disturbance. A dozen players from both teams were ejected. Miami won the game 35–29.

1995 – Lawrence Phillips, Nebraska’s top running back and a Heisman Trophy candidate, was suspended after the second game of the season after being found guilty in court of assaulting his former girlfriend. Phillips was reinstated amid a hubbub of criticism for the final three games and the Fiesta Bowl, and helped the Huskers repeat their title.

1996 – Thirteen members of Boston College’s football team were implicated in campus betting with a student bookmaker, and two of the players admitted betting against their own team.

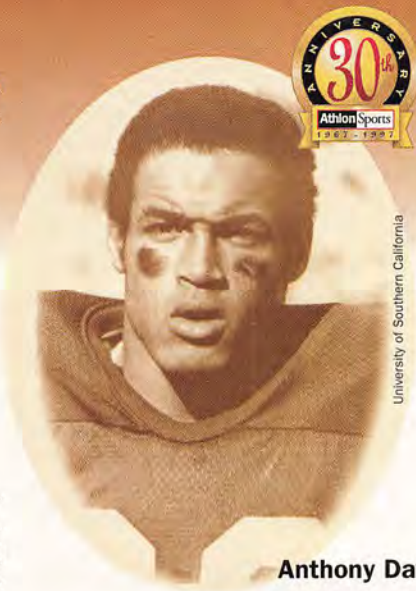
The Big Games

Nov. 18, 1967 – Two Heisman Trophy winners, UCLA quarterback Gary Beban and Southern California running back O.J. Simpson, were featured in the nation’s most famous cross-town rivalry. Beban threw for 301 yards despite a painful rib injury, but Simpson won the game with a spectacular 64-yard run and put the Trojans in the Rose Bowl. Final score USC 21, UCLA 20.

Nov. 23, 1968 – Both Harvard and Yale entered The Game with perfect records and played a 29–29 tie at ageless Harvard Stadium. Yale was ahead 29–13 with four minutes to play, but a Crimson comeback was climaxed by a two-point conversion pass from Frank Champi to Peter Varney with no time left on the clock.

Dec. 6, 1969 – With President Richard Nixon looking on, No. 1 Texas came from a 14–0 deficit and beat second-ranked Arkansas 15–14. After the game, Nixon handed a national championship trophy to Texas, bringing howls of protest from undefeated Penn State, which ended its second consecutive perfect season with a 10–3 Orange Bowl win over Missouri but still was chosen No. 2 behind Texas.

Nov. 25, 1971 – Top-ranked Nebraska, featuring Heisman Trophy winner Johnny Rodgers, defeated No. 2 Oklahoma 35–31 on Thanksgiving Day as Jeff Kinney scored the winning touchdown from 2 yards out with less than two minutes remaining. The game attracted one of the largest television audiences ever.



Anthony Davis

Dec. 2, 1972 – Anthony Davis of top-ranked USC scorched Notre Dame for six touchdowns, including kickoff returns of 97 and 96 yards, in a 45–23 victory. Two years later, SC trailed the Irish 24–0 late in the first half but scored 35 points in the third quarter and won 55–24. Davis, who tallied four scores in that game, became the first Pacific-8 Conference player to run for 1,000 yards three years in a row.

Nov. 8, 1980 – Georgia’s road to the national championship led through Jacksonville and a game with SEC rival Florida. The unbeaten Bulldogs trailed 21–20 with 1:35 to play and were pinned deep in their own territory when, on third-and-11, quarterback Buck Belue spotted receiver Lindsay Scott in the open. The two connected on an unforgettable 93-yard, game-winning touchdown play, preserving Georgia’s perfect record and title hopes.

Oct. 3, 1987 – A change of mind and heart by Florida State coach Bobby Bowden about an extra point cost him the national championship. Against Miami, with 42 seconds to play, the Seminoles had just scored to pull within one point when Bowden gave in to his players’ pleas to go for a two-point conversion instead of kicking and tying the score. A pass was knocked down, the Seminoles tasted their only loss of the season, 26–25, and finished second in the polls to — you guessed it — Miami.

Oct. 15, 1988 – Notre Dame, ranked No. 4 and playing at home, defeated top-ranked Miami 31–30, breaking the Hurricanes’ 36-game regular-season win streak. Irish free safety Pat Terrell scored on a 60-yard interception return in the second quarter and batted down a two-point conversion pass

attempt with 45 seconds to play to seal the win. Notre Dame went on to finish 12–0 and claim its 13th national title.

Dec. 2, 1989 – Auburn upset top-ranked and undefeated Alabama 30–20 when the teams played for the first time at Auburn's Jordan-Hare Stadium. Trailing 10–7 at halftime, Auburn quarterback Reggie Slack produced two touchdowns and Win Lyle kicked three field goals.

Nov. 16, 1991 – Second-ranked Miami rolled to its fourth national championship in nine years after a 17–16 victory over No. 1 Florida State. Seminole placekicker Gerry Thomas' 34-yard field-goal attempt with 25 seconds to play sailed wide right. Ironically, had not the distance between uprights been narrowed that season, the kick would have been good.

Nov. 13, 1993 – No. 1 Florida State at No. 2 Notre Dame. With both teams sporting 9–0 records and 16-game winning streaks, the pregame hype was unprecedented and the game lived up to its promise. The Irish physically dominated the first three quarters and led 21–7 at the half. A furious fourth-quarter rally by Charlie Ward & Co. fell short, and the Irish prevailed 31–24, swiping No. 1 from the 'Noles.

Nov. 20, 1993 – Boston College walk-on kicker David Gordon booted a 41-yard field goal on the game's final play that gave the Eagles a wild 41–39 victory over top-ranked Notre Dame, not only achieving sweet revenge for Notre Dame's 54–7 thrashing in 1992 (see 10 Worst Moments) but ultimately costing the Irish the national title.

Sept. 24, 1994 – Washington ended Miami's all-time record home winning streak of 58 games with a 38–20 victory.

Sept. 21, 1996 – Arizona State, humiliated 77–28 in 1995 by Nebraska, exacted delicious revenge by scoring an unprecedented three safeties in a 19–0 upset in Sun Devil Stadium that ended the top-ranked Cornhuskers' 26-game winning streak.

Nov. 23, 1996 – For the second time in four years, Michigan ruined Ohio State's national title aspirations. In 1993, the Wolverines posted a decisive 28–0 shutout in Ann Arbor. This time, the Buckeyes' bad news read 13–9. After trailing 9–0 at the half, quarterback Brian Griese engineered a 13-point second-half rally in Columbus.

30 Years of Bowl Highlights

Jan. 1, 1969 – Penn State capped Joe Paterno's first undefeated season by beating Kansas 15–14 in the Orange Bowl after getting a second chance to score the winning two-point conversion. The first attempt failed, but Kansas was penalized for having 12 men on the field, and Bob Campbell ran for the winning points on the retry.



Joe Paterno

Jan. 1, 1970 – Notre Dame played in its first bowl game since Knute Rockne's Four Horsemen defeated Stanford in the 1925 Rose Bowl but were beaten 21–17 by Texas in the Cotton Bowl. The following year, the Irish returned and broke Texas' 30-game winning streak with a 24–11 victory.

Jan. 1, 1978 – Linebacker Barry Krauss of Alabama stopped Penn State running back Mike Guman on fourth down at the goal line, knocking himself out in the process, but saving a 14–7 Sugar Bowl victory over top-ranked Penn State and clinching the second of Bear Bryant's three national championships during the '70s.

Jan. 1, 1979 – Quarterback Joe Montana, sidelined for a time because of below-normal body temperature in the sub-freezing Cotton Bowl, capped a 23-point fourth-quarter rally against Houston with a touchdown pass on the game's final play. Joe Unis had to kick the winning point twice after the first was nullified by a penalty to produce a 35–34 victory.

Jan. 1, 1983 – In a battle of the nation's two top teams in the Sugar Bowl, No. 2 Penn State upset Georgia 27–23, giving coach Joe Paterno his first national championship.

Jan. 1, 1984 – Coach Tom Osborne cost his top-ranked Nebraska Cornhuskers the

national title when, after his team scored a touchdown in the final seconds, he chose to try a two-point conversion rather than settle for a tie-making kick against Miami. Hurricane safety Ken Calhoun batted down the pass and Miami won the game 31–30 to claim the national championship.

Jan. 1, 1993 – Second-ranked Alabama thrashed No. 1 Miami 34–13 in the Sugar Bowl and not only captured the national title but also ended Miami's 29-game winning streak and its bid for an unprecedented fifth national title in 10 years.

Jan. 1, 1994 – Top-ranked Florida State won its first national championship with an 18–16 victory over No. 2 Nebraska in the Orange Bowl when Scott Bentley kicked a 22-yard field goal with 21 seconds to play — and just 55 seconds after the Huskers had taken a 16–15 lead.

Jan. 1, 1995 – Nebraska coach Tom Osborne's quest for a national championship ended in the Orange Bowl when the Cornhuskers, down 17–9 midway through the last quarter, rallied with two TDs by Cory Schlesinger and defeated Miami 24–17.

Jan. 1, 1996 – The Fiesta Bowl was the site of the national championship game. Top-ranked Nebraska got 199 rushing yards and two touchdowns from quarterback Tommy Frazier and routed No. 2 Florida 62–24 to win its second straight title.

Jan. 1, 1997 – In the Rose Bowl, only 100 seconds stood between unbeaten Arizona State and a national championship after quarterback Jake Plummer dove into the end zone to give the Sun Devils a 17–13 lead over Ohio State. Instead, the Buckeyes rolled 65 yards in 81 seconds to pull out an astounding 20–17 victory on QB Joe Germaine's five-yard TD pass to David Boston.



Bobby Bowden

Top 10 Plays

Nov. 25, 1971 – In what many consider the greatest college football game in history, Nebraska beat Oklahoma 35–31 in Norman. The lead changed hands four times. Nebraska tailback Jeff Kinney scored four touchdowns, the last of which was the game-winner. But the play of the game, indeed one of the most memorable of all time, was when Husker wingback Johnny Rodgers darted, juiced and accelerated through the Sooners on a scintillating 72-yard punt return and the first touchdown of the game.

Dec. 2, 1972 – “Punt, Bama, Punt!” With undefeated, second-ranked Alabama leading Auburn 16–3 at Birmingham’s Legion Field and 5:30 to play, Auburn linebacker Bill Newton blocked Bama punter Greg Gantt’s punt and the ball bounced into the arms of Tiger defensive back David Langer, who ran 25 yards for a score. 16–10. With 1:34 remaining, Gantt punted again, Newton blocked it again, the ball bounced into Langer’s arms again and Langer scored from 20 yards out. Final score: Auburn 17, Alabama 16.

Dec. 31, 1973 – The Sugar Bowl. Alabama vs. Notre Dame. Bear Bryant vs. Ara Parseghian. Both undefeated, playing for the national title. With time winding down, Notre Dame was leading 24–23 and faced third-and-long deep in its own territory. The Irish needed to move the chains one more time, or they would have to punt and put the Tide in position for a game-winning field goal. Quarterback Tom Clements dropped back in his own end zone and lofted a 35-yard pass to tight end Robin Weber for the first down to preserve the win and the title for the Irish.



Athlon Archives

Doug Flutie

Nov. 23, 1984 – Boston College trailed Miami 45–40 with six seconds left when BC quarterback Doug Flutie rolled to his right and lofted a pass 64 yards into the arms of receiver Gerald Phelan a yard deep in the end zone for a 47–45 victory. It was the crowning achievement of Flutie’s career, which ended with his selection as Heisman Trophy winner that season.

Jan 2, 1987 – The national title was on the line in the Fiesta Bowl. Penn State held a 14–10 lead over Miami, but the Hurricanes had driven from their own 23-yard-line to the Nittany Lions’ 6 in less than three minutes. With 18 seconds to go, Nittany Lions linebacker Pete Gifopoulos picked off a Vinnie Testaverde pass on the 1-yard-line and sealed the victory. It was the last of five interceptions of Testaverde that night. Gifopoulos helped himself to two.

Sept. 24, 1994 – Quarterback Kordell Stewart of Colorado threw a last-play, 64-yard pass that was deflected into the hands of receiver Michael Westbrook for a touchdown to beat Michigan 27–26 before 103,000 unbelieving fans at Michigan Stadium.

Nov. 2, 1995 – Florida State had not lost an Atlantic Coast Conference game since joining the league in 1992. Trailing Virginia 33–28 in Charlottesville, and with 1:37 remaining in the game, FSU quarter-

back Danny Kanell drove his team from his own 20 to the Cavalier 6 where, on the game’s final play, Virginia defensive back Adrian Burnim and linebacker Anthony Poindexter stopped FSU’s Warrick Dunn inches short of the goal line to preserve the win.

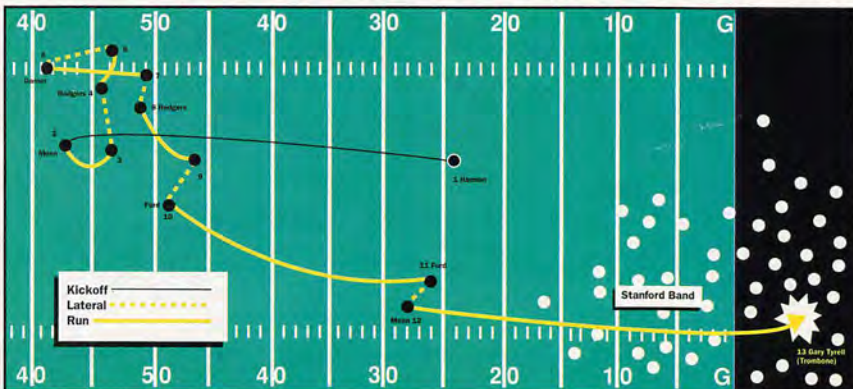
Jan. 2, 1996 – California has The Play. Nebraska has The Run. Amid a torrent of Cornhusker touchdowns in the 1996 Fiesta Bowl, as coach Tom Osborne’s crew thrashed the Florida Gators 62–24 to claim its second consecutive national championship, Husker quarterback Tommie Frazier’s 75-yard touchdown run stands out. On that incredible play, Frazier broke at least seven tackles — he appeared hopelessly corralled at one point — before breaking free down the sideline.

Dec. 7, 1996 – Nebraska faced Texas in the inaugural Big 12 championship game. Late in the game, on fourth-and-inches, Texas quarterback James Brown stunned the Huskers with a 61-yard pass to little-used tight end Derek Lewis that set up the Longhorns’ final touchdown and sent them to a 37–27 upset win, ultimately costing Nebraska a fifth-straight conference title. ■



Most Unusual Moment

On Nov. 20, 1982, Stanford kicked a field goal with six seconds to play for a 20–19 lead over California. But on the ensuing kickoff, after five lateral passes, Stanford’s band marched onto the field and provided enough cover for Cal’s Kevin Moen to score a touchdown for a 25–20 victory. To football fans all over America, this moment is known as “The Play.”



The Play Stanford’s Mark Harmon kicks off (1) from the Cardinal 25 with four seconds remaining. Kevin Moen (2) takes the kickoff from the Cal 44 to the 48 (3). Moen laterals (4) to Richard Rodgers (5) who runs for no gain before pitching to Dwight Garner (6). Garner advances to near midfield and pitches (7) back to Rodgers (8) just before (or after, depending on your loyalties) his knee touches the ground. Rodgers gains 6 yards (9) before lateraling to Mariet Ford (10). Surrounded by Cardinal defenders, Ford (11) blindly flips the ball over his shoulder. Moen catches the ball on the run (12), weaves his way through the Stanford band and into the end zone, where he bowls over Stanford trombonist Gary Tyrell (13).

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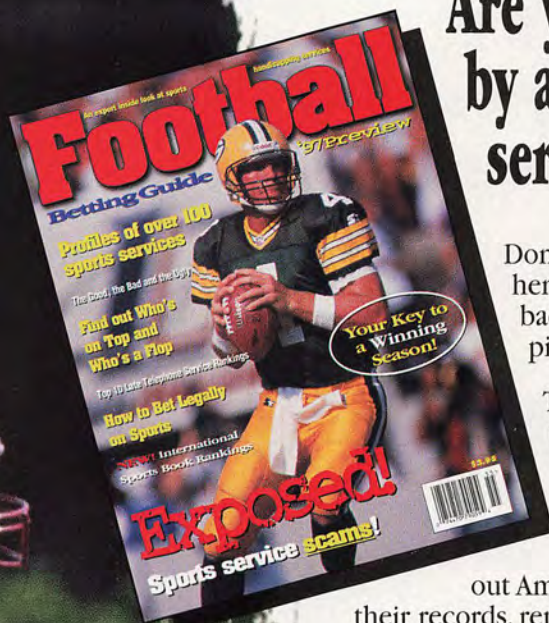
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Big 10

Predicted

Order of Finish

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Penn State | 7. Michigan State |
| 2. Ohio State | 8. Purdue |
| 3. Michigan | 9. Illinois |
| 4. Wisconsin | 10. Minnesota |
| 5. Iowa | 11. Indiana |
| 6. Northwestern | |

Three Saturdays will determine the Big Ten champions this season. Oct. 11, Nov. 8 and Nov. 22. Those are the dates when Ohio State travels to Penn State; Michigan makes its way to Happy Valley; and the classic Big Ten tradition, Ohio State goes to the Big House.

We like the home team in each of those games, and that's why Penn State is our pick to return to the Rose Bowl. Joe Paterno will have one of his better defenses this season led by linebacker Aaron Collins and lineman Chris Snyder. Most of Paterno's skill players return on offense, including preseason All-Big Ten running back Curtis Enis. The dropoff from Wally Richardson to fifth-year senior Mike McQueary at quarterback may not be noticeable.

Ohio State has few hurdles to climb, other than in Pennsylvania and, of course, Ann Arbor. Andy Katzenmoyer is one of the best defensive players in the country. John Cooper has grown accustomed to rebuilding his defense. This spring that unit sent five players to the NFL. There is a gaping 330-pound hole left in the offensive line, but two quarterbacks and running back Pepe Pearson give Cooper something to work with on offense.

The Wolverines will have what it takes in late November, but coach Lloyd Carr's troops will play perhaps the toughest schedule in college football this season. There are seven 1996 bowl teams, plus Notre Dame that declined an invitation, on that slate for Michigan. Some time during that grueling schedule, quarterback Brian Griese will hand the reigns over to redshirt freshman Jason Kapsner.

Wisconsin, with its Great Dayne at tailback and Iowa which has steadily improved the past two years, will be in the Top 25 at season's end, but neither squad has reached the level of the first three.

The joyride may not be over for Northwestern's Gary Barnett, but the stay atop the conference has been halted. Too many seniors, and one junior, Darnell Autry, have left the Evanston campus. The Wildcats and Michigan State are on the same level. Each of these seven could make a bowl trip this season.

It's OK to count the others out: Purdue, Illinois, Minnesota and Indiana. All four programs will break in new coaches this season, and what better place to learn the ropes, but at the bottom of the Big Ten?

Preseason All-Big Ten

OFFENSE

WR D'Wayne Bates	6-2	211	Sr.	Northwestern
WR Tim Dwight	5-9	185	Sr.	Iowa
TE Jerame Tuman	6-5	233	Jr.	Michigan
OL Jon Jansen	6-7	290	Jr.	Michigan
OL Flozell Adams	6-7	330	Sr.	Michigan St.
OL Eric Gohlstin	6-3	295	Sr.	Ohio State
OL Phil Ostrowski	6-4	274	Sr.	Penn State
OL Paul Janus	6-5	287	Sr.	Northwestern
QB Todd Schultz	6-4	212	Sr.	Michigan St.
RB Ron Dayne	5-10	261	So.	Wisconsin
RB Curtis Enis	6-1	230	Jr.	Penn State

DEFENSE

DL Jared DeVries	6-4	265	Jr.	Iowa
DL Dimitrius Underwood	6-7	250	Jr.	Michigan St.
DL Winfield Garnett	6-6	305	Sr.	Ohio State
DL Chris Snyder	6-3	250	Jr.	Penn State
LB Andy Katzenmoyer	6-4	250	So.	Ohio State
LB Aaron Collins	6-0	233	Sr.	Penn State
LB Ike Reese	6-3	222	Sr.	Michigan St.
DB Charles Woodson	6-1	197	Jr.	Michigan
DB Marcus Ray	6-0	197	Jr.	Michigan
DB Damon Moore	5-11	200	Jr.	Ohio State
DB Jamel Coleman	6-0	192	Sr.	Purdue

SPECIALISTS

KR Kenny Watson	6-0	186	So.	Penn State
PR Tim Dwight	5-9	185	Sr.	Iowa
K Chris Gardner	5-9	195	Sr.	Michigan St.
P Alan Sutkowski	6-1	188	Sr.	Indiana

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It is not so much a back-to-basics attitude at Illinois under first-year coach Ron Turner. It's more like a back-to-offense approach.

The Illini fired defensive-minded Lou Tepper and hired Turner, who worked the last four years as the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach of the Chicago Bears. What the Fighting Illini want this season is scoring, but they must first absorb Turner's West Coast, pro-style offense, which he terms "simplicity with diversity."

"We have different schemes for passing and running," Turner says. "Protection, terminology, everything is completely different. It's starting from scratch with these players."



Chris Brown

Turner likes a gambling, aggressive, wide-open offense, and certainly, Illinois fans are ready for some razzle-dazzle following a dreadful 2-9 season in which Illinois went 1-7 in the Big Ten.

quarterbacks

Turner has worked with top NFL quarterbacks such as Jim Harbaugh and Erik Kramer, but he will begin his Illinois campaign with relative inexperience at this position.

Mark Hoekstra, a junior, is the oldest of the returning quarterbacks and was a backup to Scott Weaver last season. Hoekstra played in six games and completed 22-of-46 passes for 224 yards but had six interceptions.

Redshirt freshman Tim Lavery, a left-handed thrower, likely will be the backup. He does not have considerable size at 6-1, 176 pounds, but he has a strong, accurate arm. He throws an 85 mph fastball and was a 14th-round pick of the Chicago Cubs in 1996.

running backs

Robert Holcombe, a two-time 1,000-yard

rusher, returns for his senior season, and the way Turner sees it "Heisman candidate" should appear before his name.

Holcombe possesses that special combination of speed and power. He bench-presses 390 pounds, but more importantly, he can be a game breaker if he gets the blocking. Holcombe averaged 116.45 yards, 16th-best nationally last year, and set the Illinois single-season rushing record with 1,281 yards on 260 carries. He was the workhorse of the backfield, averaging 24 carries.

Junior Wilbert Smith is expected to be the backup, but that job could go to sophomore Steve Havard.

Fullback Ty Douthard, who accounted for 482 yards of total offense, is gone, and that is cause for concern. Sophomore Elmer Hickman missed most of the 1996 season because of knee surgery and should be reliable. Redshirt freshman Nehemiah Minor, who runs a 10.7 100-yard dash and benches 270 pounds, may ease into the lineup.

wide receivers

Turner's offensive scheme, at times, will include three- and four-receiver sets, which bodes well for players like Marquis Mosely, Rob Majoy and George McDonald-Ashford.

Mosley, a senior, leads the group in experience. He had 28 receptions for 301 yards and one touchdown. Mosley has a vertical leap of 34 inches and is a big-play threat because of his speed.

Majoy, a junior, recorded 19 catches for 149 yards and McDonald-Ashford, also a junior, 12 receptions for 79 yards.

Expect to see plenty of senior tight end Matt Cushing. He has great hands and used them to catch 22 passes for 203 yards.

offensive line

Illinois has experience with four returning starters but not great depth. Senior left guard Brent Taylor, who also played at nose tackle one game, started the final six games on the offensive line and will regain that position.

At the tackles are twin juniors Ryan and Tom Schau. Tom Schau started the final seven games at left tackle and Ryan Schau opened every game at right tackle. Senior Chris Brown is expected to return at center, where he started all but one game.

Sophomore Mike Flaar will play behind Ryan Schau, and 6-5, 352-pound redshirt freshman Marques Sullivan could work his way in at right guard.

defensive line

Turner wants an aggressive defense and it starts here in the 4-3 scheme. He has expressed

Steve Woltmann

Steve Woltmann



Robert Holcombe



Eric Guenther

Illini Rally Ended Drought



One of the greatest Illini victories came at Michigan on Oct. 23, 1993, when they came back from a 21-10 deficit against the Wolverines. With 1:13 remaining, Illinois' Simeon Rice recovered a Ricky Powers fumble at the Michigan 44. On fourth down with 41 seconds remaining, Johnny Johnson completed a 15-yard touchdown pass to Jim Klein for the 24-21 comeback. It was the Illini's first victory at Michigan since 1966.

solo. Sophomore Danny Clark also is back, coming off a productive season in which he started all but one game and recorded 52 tackles. Also back is senior David James, who made three starts and 25 tackles.

defensive backs

The secondary will have more of an in-your-face aggressiveness, which means more man coverage.

17.3 The average number of points the Illini scored a year ago. Illinois, which was shut out by Arizona and Ohio State, went the first three games without scoring a touchdown.

concern about a drop-off in size in the interior line and expects to heavily rotate to keeps players fresh.

The top returnee is junior Garrett Johnson, who moved from linebacker to tackle. A sprained right ankle in the season opener forced him out of the lineup for five games, but he returned to make 28 tackles in the final six games.

Rameel Connor, who will start at the other tackle, was the team's Rookie of the Year in 1996. Also back is junior Jeff Weisse, who had 37 tackles and three sacks.

linebackers

Having produced two Butkus Award winners the last three years, the Illini have taken to calling themselves, "Linebacker U." Turner inherits a group that boasts depth and speed, although junior Cyron Brown, who made eight starts, was dismissed for violation of team rules, and red-shirt freshman Eric Jefferson was granted a release from his scholarship for medical reasons.

But don't pity the Illini, because they've got plenty of bodies. Junior Eric Guenther is the top returning tackler with 89, including 53

Seniors James Williams and Trevor Starghill return as the starting cornerbacks. Williams distinguished himself as a big-play defensive back with 67 tackles, an interception and fumble recovery. Starghill, a starter for three seasons, makes up for his 5-8, 182-pound size with strength and quickness. He benches 365 pounds and is considered the fastest player on the team. Starghill has eight career interceptions.

Sophomore Asim Pleas made six starts at strong safety and led the team with four interceptions, including a 30-yard touchdown return. Junior Mike Gusich also started at that position but he should open at free safety.

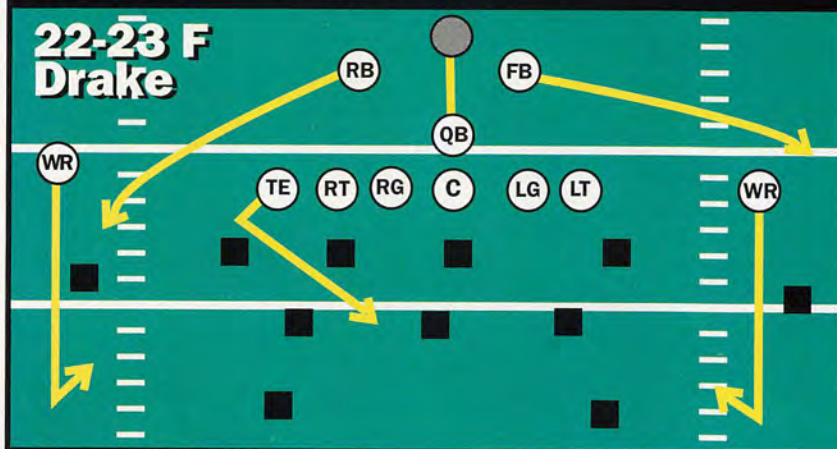
specialists

Jason Higgins handled the bulk of the punting last season and returns to pick up where he left off. Because of Illinois' inefficient offense, Higgins, a sophomore, had considerable work. He punted 54 times for a 39.1-yard average, and he can kick deep, as evidenced by a 66-yarder against Iowa.

Sophomore Neil Rackers and senior Bret Scheuplein shared field-goal duties, and neither was awesome. They are back to try to make amends for a combined 6-for-12 performance.

Fighting Illini Critical Play

This will be a base play in the newly installed pro-style offense of Ron Turner. The QB has three options but his first look is to the flanker.



1997 Illinois Roster

1996 Record: 2-9
Big Ten Record: 1-7
Head Coach: Ron Turner

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
80	Adams, Conrad	TE	6-5	244	Jr.	Little Rock, AR
96	Alibabogun, Ola	DL	6-4	280	Jr.	Chicago, IL
81	Bardwell, Roy	TE	6-4	218	Fr.	Robbins, IL
27	Benson, Ivan	S	6-2	205	So.	Jefferson City, MO
65	Brown, Chris	OL	6-3	303	Sr.	Kansas City, MO
15	Cella, Justin	QB	6-5	207	Fr.	Neptune, NJ
48	Clark, Danny	LB	6-2	223	So.	Country Club Hills, IL
95	Connor, Rameel	DL	6-3	268	So.	Oak Park, IL
88	Craciunoiu, Michael	TE	6-3	230	Fr.	Franklin, IN
25	Craig, Ryan	SN	6-1	210	Sr.	St. Joseph, IL
86	Cushing, Matt	TE	6-4	251	Sr.	Chicago, IL
1	Dean, Michael	WR	6-2	168	So.	Key West, FL
64	Faar, Mike	OL	6-4	311	So.	Montgomery, IL
59	Fordham, Mike	DL	6-2	277	Sr.	Flint, MI
33	Francis, Tony	DB	6-2	201	So.	Glenwood, IL
30	Franklin, Robert	LB	6-2	238	Fr.	St. Louis, MO
36	Frye, Dharma	RB	6-1	192	Fr.	Chicago, IL
51	Garrett, Eric	LB	6-2	235	Fr.	Bolingbrook, IL
89	Gatton, Joe	TE	6-4	250	So.	Vandalia, OH
34	Greenlee, Andy	DB	6-1	187	Fr.	Caledonia, IL
41	Guenther, Eric	LB	6-2	230	Jr.	Thousand Oaks, CA
39	Gusich, Mike	S	6-0	185	Jr.	Cincinnati, OH
76	Halley, Tremaine	DL	5-11	252	Fr.	Chicago, IL
54	Hampton, Alex	LB	6-4	207	Fr.	Bellwood, IL
23	Hansen, Mike	WR	6-1	226	Jr.	Geneva, IL
38	Havard, Steve	RB	5-10	196	So.	Wheaton, IL
32	Hickman, Elmer	FB	6-1	207	So.	Alton, IL
4	Higgins, Jason	P	6-2	199	So.	Normal, IL
11	Hoekstra, Mark	QB	6-4	220	Jr.	Grand Rapids, MI
58	Hoffman, Chris	LB	6-2	224	So.	Cincinnati, OH
35	Holcombe, Robert	RB	6-0	215	Sr.	Mesa, AZ
57	Hood, Marcus	LB	6-2	232	Fr.	Kankakee, IL
55	Hubert, Famous	LB	6-2	234	Jr.	Bellwood, IL
42	James, David	LB	6-0	238	Sr.	East St. Louis, IL
63	Jamroz, Jeff	OL	6-7	240	Fr.	Naperville, IL
9	Johnson, Kirk	QB	6-3	204	So.	Brentwood, TN
66	Johnson, Garrett	DL	6-3	279	Jr.	Belleville, IL
59	Johnson, McKay	LB	5-11	198	Fr.	Des Plaines, IL
73	Lauzen, Joe	DL	6-2	265	Jr.	Appleton, WI
13	Lavery, Tim	QB	6-1	176	Fr.	Naperville, IL
40	Lewis, Ivery	FB	5-10	217	So.	Danville, IL
67	Machado, J.P.	OL	6-5	304	Jr.	Monmouth, IL
22	Majoy, Rob	WR	6-0	181	Jr.	Huron, OH

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
17	Marable, Terence	DB	6-1	179	Jr.	Crete, IL
6	McDonald-Ashford, G.	WR	6-0	187	Jr.	Buena Park, CA
85	McGee, Mike	DL	6-3	251	So.	Springfield, IL
8	McLaurin, Carlos	DB	5-10	169	So.	St. Louis, MO
71	McNutt, Antoine	OL	6-3	319	So.	Chicago, IL
31	Minor, Nehemiah	RB	6-0	196	Fr.	Detroit, MI
5	Mosely, Marquis	WR	6-0	193	Sr.	Bloomington, IL
56	Murphy, Ryan	DL	6-3	255	Jr.	Cincinnati, OH
18	Nawrocki, Nolan	S	5-11	193	So.	Chicago, IL
75	Nicastro, Chip	OL	6-6	296	So.	Florissant, MO
24	Payton, Mark	P	5-9	200	Jr.	South Holland, IL
24	Pleas, Asim	S	5-10	185	So.	Youngstown, OH
44	Quinlan, Scott	FB	6-4	244	Fr.	Rantoul, IL
98	Rackers, Neil	K	6-0	194	So.	Florissant, MO
49	Richards, Eddie	DB	5-11	190	So.	Hazel Crest, IL
68	Ryan, Corey	OL	6-6	303	Sr.	Bettendorf, IA
62	Schau, Tom	OL	6-5	291	Jr.	Bloomington, IL
60	Schau, Ryan	OL	6-6	300	Jr.	Bloomington, IL
10	Scheuplein, Bret	K	6-2	213	Sr.	Coral Springs, FL
90	Schwartz, Jeff	DL	6-5	259	Jr.	Elgin, MN
76	Scott, Brian	OL	6-1	280	So.	Urbana, IL
16	Sessions, Roy	S	6-2	193	Fr.	Kankakee, IL
18	Sheard, Brian	QB	6-1	201	Fr.	Dolton, IL
14	Singleton, Bobbie	WR	6-1	182	Fr.	Chicago, IL
2	Smith, Wilbert	RB	5-8	198	Jr.	Panorama, CA
38	Somerville, Barry	DB	5-11	200	So.	St. Charles, IL
20	Starghill, Trevor	DB	5-8	180	Sr.	Youngstown, OH
45	Strong, Manuel	LB	6-4	226	So.	Grand Rapids, MI
79	Sullivan, Marques	OL	6-5	352	Fr.	Oak Park, IL
37	Sylvester, Pete	FB	5-11	239	So.	Glenview, IL
34	Tabloff, Ryan	P	6-2	203	Sr.	Arlington Hts., IL
70	Taylor, Brent	OL	6-3	307	Sr.	Sikeston, MO
91	Tesdall, Seth	DL	6-3	243	So.	Morris, IL
92	Thomas, Karleton	DL	6-5	274	Fr.	Kankakee, IL
3	Thompson, Anthony	WR	6-1	198	Fr.	Key West, FL
61	Thornton, Tim	OL	6-2	259	Fr.	Peoria, IL
99	Wakefield, Fred	DL	6-7	228	Fr.	Tuscola, IL
53	Weisse, Jeff	DL	6-3	238	Jr.	Aurora, IL
26	Williams, James	DB	6-0	188	Sr.	Flossmoor, IL
19	Willis, Steve	S	5-11	207	Jr.	St. Louis, MO
21	Willis, Lenny	WR	5-9	173	So.	Champaign, IL
52	Young, Michael	LB	6-2	223	Fr.	St. Louis, MO

1997 Signees

NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	HOMETOWN
Butkus, Luke	OL	6-4	255	Steger, IL
Carlton, Matt	OL	6-6	327	Livonia, MI
Cook, Jameel	RB	6-0	205	Miami, FL
Cutter, Dan	OL	6-7	285	Tampa, FL
Hodges, Brian	QB	6-4	225	Country Club, IL
Hurd, Anthony	DB	5-10	180	New Orleans, LA
Jackson, Robert	S	6-1	200	Corvallis, OR
King, Oliver	DL	6-4	265	Saginaw, MI
Kulaga, Jay	OL	6-5	345	Seminole, FL
Long, Mon	LB	6-2	210	Sarasota, FL
Long, Robby	FB-LB	6-3	240	Champaign, IL
Piazza, Nick	WR	6-1	183	Frankfort, IL
Redziniak, Ray	OL	6-3	275	Clark, NJ
Washington, Keith	LB	6-2	215	Shreveport, LA
Whitman, Josh	TE	6-4	232	W. Lafayette, IN
Ziegler, Jeff	QB	6-5	200	Jackson, MI

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

SE 5 Marquis Mosley (Sr., 3); 1 Michael Dean (So., 1)
LT 62 Tom Schau (Sr., 2); 71 Antoine McNutt (So., 0)
LG 70 Brent Taylor (Sr., 3); 67 J. P. Machado (So., 0)
C 65 Chris Brown (Sr., 3); 68 Corey Ryan (Sr., 0)
RG 79 Marques Sullivan (Fr., 0); 75 Chip Nicastro (So., 0)
RT 60 Ryan Schau (Sr., 2); 64 Mike Faar (So., 1)
TE 86 Matt Cushing (Sr., 3); 80 Conrad Adams (Sr., 1)
QB 11 Mark Hoekstra (Sr., 2); 13 Tim Lavery (Fr., 0)
FB 32 Elmer Hickman (So., 1); 31 Nehemiah Minor (Fr., 0)
TB 35 Robert Holcombe (Sr., 3); 2 Wilbert Smith (Sr., 1)
WR 22 Rob Majoy (Sr., 2); 6 George McDonald-Ashford (Sr., 1)
K 10 Bret Scheuplein (Sr., 3)

DEFENSE (8)

DE 53 Jeff Weisse (Sr., 2); 56 Ryan Murphy (Sr., 1)
DT 66 Garrett Johnson (Sr., 2); 90 Jeff Schwartz (Sr., 0)
DT 95 Rameel Conner (So., 1); 73 Joe Lauzen (Sr., 0)
DE 59 Mike Fordham (Sr., 2); 85 Mike McGee (So., 1)
LB 48 Danny Clark (So., 1); 58 Chris Hoffman (So., 1)
LB 41 Eric Guenther (Sr., 2); 45 Manuel Strong (So., 0)
LB 42 David James (Sr., 3); 30 Robert Franklin (Fr., 0)
CB 26 James Williams (Sr., 3); 17 Terence Marable (Sr., 0)
CB 20 Trevor Starghill (Sr., 3); 8 Carlos McLaurin (So., 0)
SS 24 Asim Pleas (So., 1); 27 Ivan Benson (So., 1)
FS 39 Mike Gusich (Sr., 2); 19 Steve Willis (Sr., 1)
P 4 Jason Higgins (So., 1)

(#) indicates number of returning starters
BOLD indicates returning starters
 Number after class indicates letters won

Top Returning Leaders

Passing: Mark Hoekstra, 22-46-224-6, 0 TDs
Rushing: Robert Holcombe, 260 car., 1281 yds., 12 TDs
Receiving: Marquis Mosely, 28 rec., 301 yds., 1 TD
Scoring: Robert Holcombe, 13 TDs, 78 points
Punting: Jason Higgins, 54 punts, 39.1 avg.
Kicking: Bret Scheuplein, 4-7 FGs., 4-4 XP
Tackles: Eric Guenther, 89, 53 solo
Sacks: Jeff Weisse, 3
Interceptions: Asim Pleas, 4 for 41 yards, 1 TD

1997 Schedule

Sept. 6 Southern Miss.
 Sept. 13 @ Louisville
 Sept. 20 Washington St.
 Sept. 27 @ Iowa
 Oct. 4 Penn State
 Oct. 11 @ Wisconsin
 Oct. 25 Purdue
 Nov. 1 @ Indiana
 Nov. 8 Northwestern
 Nov. 15 @ Ohio State
 Nov. 22 Michigan St.

Rising Star

Sophomore Danny Clark, a former high school quarterback, started all but one game at drop linebacker last season and had 52 tackles, including 32 solo. The 6-2, 223-pound Clark has good speed and instincts and could eventually bring another Butkus Award home.

Indiana University has long been considered the Big Ten Conference's equivalent of a football graveyard. Though Bill Mallory, fired toward the end of last season, put together seven .500 or better seasons and went to six bowl games, the Hoosiers haven't exactly struck fear in the hearts of Big Ten opponents. Worse yet, football people call it a basketball school.

"So what," says first-year coach Cam Cameron, a former IU quarterback and basketball player. "Look at the other sports. There's no question in my mind we can get done what we want to get done."

That, of course, is to win. Cameron went into



Joey Eloms

spring practice with an open mind and no depth chart. He isn't fooling himself, though. This isn't a quick fix proposition and isn't likely to be an immediate success, considering the ruggedness of the Big Ten and a schedule that includes seven games against teams who reached bowl games last year.

"This is a marathon. It's not a sprint," Cameron says, "Anything less and we're fooling ourselves."

quarterbacks

Sophomore Jay Rodgers started four games late last season and he says he welcomes the competition that is likely to come from redshirt freshman Earl Haniford and incoming freshman Antwaan Randle El. Whoever calls the plays, Cameron will tailor the offense to suit his skills. In the case of Rodgers and Randle El, that means option. Both can run. Which of the two is the better passer remains to be seen. Rodgers completed just 49 percent of his passes last season for 600 yards and threw 10 interceptions.

Haniford, Indiana's Mr. Football in 1995 after

throwing for 11,100 career yards at Martinsville High, is the best passer on the squad but lacks mobility. Cameron may not decide on a quarterback until just before the season opener.

running backs

Gone is Alex Smith, the hard-nosed tailback who decided to go pro when Mallory got the ax. He will be missed. The heir apparent is sophomore Jason Spear, who ran for 226 yards as a freshman and improved down the stretch. Red-shirt freshman Glynn Johnson is another possibility at tailback, as are freshmen De'Wayne Hogan, who combines 220 pounds with 4.5 speed, and Indiana Player of the Year Levron Williams, who ran for more than 4,000 yards in his prep career. Williams is the most highly regarded prospect at Indiana since Anthony Thompson, who helped recruit Williams after joining Cameron's staff.

The loss of bruising fullback Steve Lee raises another question mark, but backup Chris Gall, a junior, returns.

receivers

Cameron wants to throw the ball but doesn't have much veteran talent on the receiving end. Senior Dorian Wilkerson led the team with 40 catches for 490 yards, but only one of those was for a score. Sophomore Versie Gaddis possesses speed, a rare commodity on the Hoosiers' roster. He averaged 20.9 yards on seven receptions last year and may catch 10 times that many this season, if the offense clicks as planned.

Junior college transfer Jimmy Robinson and freshman O.J. Conner, who some say has NFL potential, could end up as the starting wideouts.

At tight end, senior Ben Klusmeyer, junior Brian Bobay, a converted defensive lineman, and sophomore Randy Maxwell give Cameron three solid, if not spectacular, players. It's a sure bet the tight end will be a bigger offensive weapon than it has been.

offensive linemen

Once thought of as a weakness, Cameron says the offensive could be a strength, with junior Greg Jenkins and seniors Khalfani Banks, Chris Lee and Chris Liwinski returning, and redshirt freshman Paul Mandina and sophomore Craig Robeen showing promise. All are 290 or better. Lee played three positions, but should settle in at center. Liwinski started all 11 games at right tackle.

The line wore down at the end of last season, with injuries and a lack of experienced depth taking a toll. This year's group will have to be versatile, blocking for both the option game and the



Aaron Warnecke



Chris Liwienski

pass. And it must do what it didn't do last year, open holes on third and short yardage.

defensive linemen

Despite the loss of Nathan Davis, who had a disappointing senior season, the Hoosiers could be solid up front, with seniors Albert Haywood and Benyard Jones, junior Aaron Williams, and sophomores Adewale Ogunleye, Damian Gregory and Chad Miller. Ogunleye, who possesses surprising speed and quickness for a 260-pounder, had 47 tackles last year,

15 for loss. Expect him to be the leader up front.

One thing the Hoosiers did in '96 was develop depth on the defensive line. Junior Brady Shields and sophomores Yeronimo Ciriaco and Jason Czap all saw playing time. The line, however, was susceptible to the run, especially up the middle. Off-season weight work is expected to help.

linebackers

Gone are Jamie Baisley and Matt Surface and their 194 tackles between them. Junior Jabar Robinson, who started nine games as

Two Big Wins For Hoosiers

1987: For the only time in school history, the Hoosiers beat Ohio State (31-10) and Michigan (14-10) in the same season on the way to an 8-4 record and a spot in the Peach Bowl.



a freshman and every game last season, is the leader. With quick feet and good hands, Robinson is excellent in pass coverage, but needs to improve on the run. He tallied three interceptions and 63 tackles. Senior Kevin Glaser and sophomores Al Phillips, Vince Lidy and James Lamar all saw action last season, but who among that group can join Robinson on the first team remains to be seen.

Redshirt freshman Ricky Nooft and true freshman Joslin Goodman, who joined the team in January, are athletic, quick and may be the players to watch. Another incoming freshman, 225-pound Devin Schaffer, could start in the middle.

defensive backs

An all-senior secondary of safeties, Aaron Warnecke and Kywin Supernaw and cornerbacks Joe King and Joey Eloms, is set, at least for now. None of these players possess great speed, which means quick receivers once again will give the Hoosiers fits in straight man-to-man coverage.



The number of touchdown passes thrown by all the Indiana quarterbacks combined in the last two seasons.

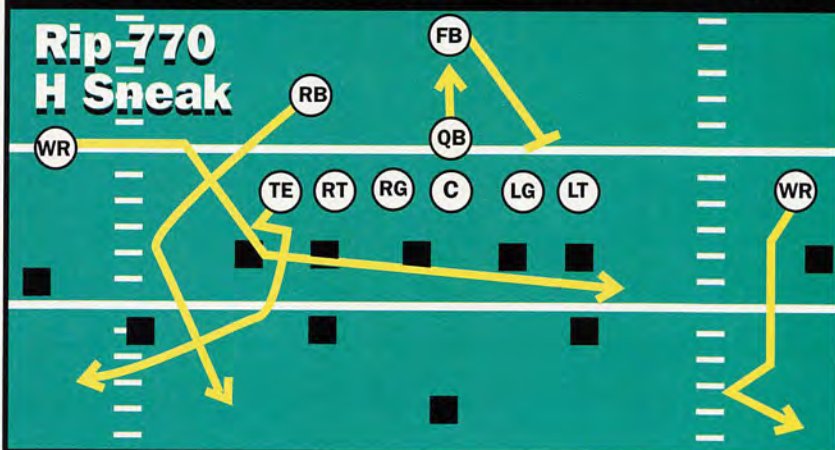
Sophomore Curtis Randle El, who lettered as a freshman, has good speed and quickness and could challenge for one of the corner spots, as could sophomore Patrick Shaw, who started three games after Eloms suffered a broken leg in last year's Northwestern game. And a group of red-shirt and true freshmen with speed may get long, hard looks, including O.J. Spencer, Brandon Rodgers, Marcus Floyd, Kyle Moffatt and Sharrod Wallace.

specialists

Senior Alan Sutkowski, who averaged a healthy 43.3 yards per punt last season, returns. He was second-team All-Big Ten and may have been the league's most consistent punter over the last half of the season. Redshirt freshman Andy Payne, who has a strong leg and can also punt, takes over placekicking chores.

Hoosiers Critical Play

An all-purpose play against zone or man, Cam Cameron called it frequently for Henry Ellard with the Redskins, who caught over 1,000 yards worth of passes at age 35.



1997 Indiana Roster

1996 Record: 3-8
Big Ten Record: 1-7
Head Coach: Cam Cameron

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
90	Abruzzo, Nick	DE	6-7	240	Fr.	Schaumburg, IL
76	Allotey, Victor	OL	6-4	316	Sr.	Brooklyn, NY
44	Ballou, David	FB	6-1	246	Fr.	Indianapolis, IN
79	Banks, Khalfani	OL	6-5	324	Sr.	Naperville, IL
83	Barber, Jamie	FS	6-2	190	Jr.	Wheatland, IN
48	Belu, Mike	LB	6-2	211	Sr.	Greensboro, NC
46	Bobby, Brian	DE	6-1	265	Jr.	Fort Wayne, IN
97	Bramel, Gordon	DT	6-5	268	Fr.	Lebanon, KY
66	Broyles, James	OL	6-4	311	Fr.	Rennselaer, IN
96	Ciriaco, Yeronimo	DT	6-3	270	So.	Bronx, NY
30	Clancy, Narlin	DB	5-11	188	Fr.	Fort Wayne, IN
67	Coffey, Toby	LB	6-0	224	Fr.	Carmel, IN
8	Coleman, Brian	DB	6-0	192	Jr.	Neptune, NJ
87	Curley, Robert	SS	6-1	184	So.	Palos Heights, IL
68	Czap, Jason	DE	6-3	250	So.	Indianapolis, IN
15	Day, David	WR	5-11	194	Sr.	Indianapolis, IN
41	Dotson, Jerry	LB	6-0	219	Fr.	Monrovia, IN
31	Eloms, Joey	DB	5-11	181	Sr.	Ft. Wayne, IN
2	Gaddis, Versie	WR	5-10	165	So.	Decatur, GA
40	Gall, Chris	FB	6-2	237	Jr.	River Forest, IL
58	Gecina, Brad	LB	6-2	228	So.	Columbiana, OH
53	Glaser, Kevin	LB	6-1	241	Sr.	Cincinnati, OH
92	Goode, Curt	DE	6-7	262	Jr.	Chesterfield, MO
	Goodman, Joslin	LB	6-3	212	Fr.	Osceola, IN
75	Gregory, Damian	DT	6-3	303	So.	Lansing, MI
	Grubbs, Deion	RB	5-9	185	Fr.	Detroit, MI
86	Haines, Casey	TE	6-0	211	So.	Hunula, HI
7	Haniford, Earl	QB	6-2	205	Fr.	Martinsville, IN
81	Hartman, Ryan	WR	6-1	185	Fr.	Lafayette, IN
51	Hawley, Ryan	LS	5-9	165	Jr.	Ft. Wayne, IN
70	Haywood, Albert	DT	6-2	335	Sr.	Chicago, IL
3	Howard, Geoffrey	SS	5-10	180	Sr.	South Bend, IN
42	Irish, Dan	FB	6-1	243	Sr.	Carmel, IN
11	Irving, Michael	P	6-4	222	Jr.	Staten Island, NY
62	Jenkins, Greg	OL	6-7	300	Jr.	Goshen, OH
33	Johnson, Glynn	RB	5-8	197	Fr.	Cincinnati, OH
71	Johnson, Jeremy	OL	6-7	297	So.	Newburgh, IN
95	Jones, Benyard	DT	6-2	266	Sr.	Kankakee, IL
41	Jones, Eugene	RB	6-2	226	So.	Pine Bush, NY
5	King, Joe	DE	6-0	181	Sr.	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
19	Kirn, Jeff	TE	6-6	241	Jr.	Kentwood, MI

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
85	Klumsmeier, Ben	TE	6-5	267	Sr.	Anderson, IN
91	Kobi, Casey	LB	6-1	179	Jr.	Ft. Wayne, IN
16	Kramer, Terry	QB	6-3	201	So.	Tell City, IN
18	Lamar, James	LB	6-0	225	So.	Ypsilanti, MI
54	Lee, Chris	OL	6-3	293	Sr.	Anniston, AL
35	Lidy, Vince	LB	6-0	240	So.	Newburgh, IN
74	Liwienski, Chris	OL	6-6	304	Sr.	Sterling Heights, MI
73	Mandina, Paul	OL	6-4	282	Fr.	Rochester, NY
84	Maxwell, Randy	TE	6-3	247	So.	Lawrenceburg, IN
15	McDonald, Matt	FS	6-1	192	Jr.	Olivette, MO
38	McGrath, Michael	DB	6-0	203	So.	Downers Grove, IL
72	Miller, Chad	DT	6-3	268	So.	Lima, OH
45	Nooft, Ricky	LB	6-2	212	Fr.	Kettering, OH
93	Ogunleye, Adewale	DE	6-4	260	So.	Staten Island, NY
87	Parker, Matt	TE	6-6	239	Fr.	Robinson, IL
22	Parrish, Robert	WR	6-1	216	So.	Indianapolis, IN
4	Paul, Jean	WR	6-2	180	Jr.	Naples, FL
30	Payne, Andy	K	5-10	190	Fr.	Fishers, IN
49	Phillips, Al	LB	6-0	244	So.	Indianapolis, IN
26	Randle El, Curtis	DB	5-10	178	So.	Riverdale, IL
78	Robeen, Craig	OL	6-5	311	So.	Hardin, IL
55	Robinson, Jabar	LB	6-2	236	Jr.	Ft. Wayne, IN
12	Rodgers, Jay	QB	6-1	200	So.	Austin, TX
6	Shaw, Patrick	DE	5-10	187	So.	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
56	Shields, Brady	DB	6-2	250	Jr.	Bloomington, IN
65	Snyder, Matt	OL	6-3	280	So.	Hartland, WI
28	Spear, Jason	RB	5-11	213	So.	Logansport, IN
9	Spencer, O.J.	DB	5-11	180	Fr.	Jacksonville, FL
61	Stealy, Jason	OL	6-0	311	So.	Marshall, MI
13	Supernaw, Kywin	SS	6-1	209	Sr.	Skiatook, OK
25	Sutkowski, Alan	P	6-1	188	Sr.	Griffith, IN
17	Warnecke, Aaron	SS	6-1	206	Sr.	Fairland, IN
80	Wilkerson, Dorian	WR	6-0	193	Sr.	Lauderdale Lakes, FL
99	Williams, Aaron	DE	6-5	259	Jr.	Brampton, ON
31	Woods, Trammel	WR	5-9	170	Fr.	Elkhart, IN
10	Zent, Mike	DB	5-10	179	So.	Indianapolis, IN

1997 Signees

NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	HOMETOWN
Brown, Tony	DE	6-2	250	Dayton, OH
All-city; All-Southwest; honorable mention all-state; recorded 50 solo tackles and 12 assists.				
Browning, Tyrone	WR-DB	6-1	180	Evansville, IN
Named first team all-state, all-city and all-conference; caught 49 passes for 631 yds. and scored eight TDs.; Herald-Times Top 33.				
Chantwell, Jay	OL	6-5	250	Glenview, IL
Chicago Tribune All-Area, All-State.				
Conner, O.J.	WR	6-3	180	Gary, IN
All-state; member of the Herald-Times Big State team; caught 34 passes for 641 yds., with seven TDs.				
DeArmond, Nate	OL	6-4	320	Fort Wayne, IN
All-state; Herald-Times Top 33; lead blocker for his team that averaged 247 yards rushing per game.				
Enright, Kyle	FB	6-2	250	Indianapolis, IN
All-conference team and honorable mention all-state as a junior; missed almost all of his senior season with injuries.				
Flint, Jared	QB	6-5	190	Irvine, CA
Threw for 3,569 yds. and 22 TDs in his career.				
Floyd, Marcus	DB	5-8	170	Bartow, FL
All-area; all-state; rushed for 1,002 yds. and 14 TDs despite missing five of 15 games.				
Goodman, Joslin	LB	6-3	210	Osceola, IN
BLUECHIP Illustrated All-State and '95 All-American; recorded 185 solo tackles and 14 ints. in his career.				
Grubbs, Deion	RB	5-10	185	Detroit, MI
All-city; named most valuable player in Michigan All-Star game.				
Harris, Peter	FB	5-9	190	Brockton, MA
Massachusetts Player of the Year in 1996; rushed for 2,300 yds. and 32 TDs as a senior.				
Hogan, De'Wayne	RB	6-0	220	Indianapolis, IN
All-state; Herald-Times Top 33; ran for 1,874 yds. and 20 TDs as a senior.				
Johnson, Joe	TE	6-7	275	Holland, MI
All-conference, all-area; honorable mention all-state pick.				
Mintzer, Sterling	TE	6-5	230	White Lake, MI
Detroit Free Press All-State.				
Moffatt, Kyle	DB	5-11	195	Indianapolis, IN
All-state; recorded 59 solo tackles, 14 assists, two ints. and blocked four punts as a senior.				
Antwaan, Randle El	QB	5-11	175	Riverdale, IL
Rushed for 1,442 yds. and 15 TDs and passed for 1,069 yds. and 12 TDs as a senior; will also play basketball at IU.				
Rasmussen, Kemp	DE	6-3	240	Hadley, MI
Detroit News and the Detroit Free Press "Dream Teams"; all-state.				
Robinson, Jimmy	WR	6-3	190	Stone Mtn., GA
Played last year at Georgia Military College; Super-Prep Top 100 Juco list.				
Rodgers, Brandon	DB	6-2	205	Cincinnati, OH
All-city; all-state; conference Player of the Year; passed for 1,500 yds. and 14 TDs; punted for a 44.2 yard average.				
Schaffer, Devin	LB	6-2	225	Indianapolis, IN
All-state; Herald-Times Top 33; rushed for over 1,728 yds. and scored 26 TDs.				
Smith, Justin	DB	6-1	185	Indianapolis, IN
All-conference, all-metro; honorable mention all-state; recorded 28 solo tackles, eight assists and two ints. as a senior.				
Smith, Robert	DB	5-10	185	Detroit, MI
Detroit News "Dream Team"; city champion in track in the 100 meters.				
Wallace, Sharrod	WR-DB	5-10	180	Harrisburg, PA
Played at Hargrave Military Academy; will have four years of eligibility; made 14 catches for 315 yds. and scored six TDs.				
Williams, Levron	TB	6-3	195	Evansville, IN
PrepStar and Parade Magazine All-American; ran for 2,009 yds. with 19 TDs as a senior.				

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (5)

WR	80	Dorian Wilkerson (Sr., 3); O.J. Conner (Fr., 0)
LT	79	Khalfani Banks (Sr., 2); 71 Jeremy Johnson (So., 1)
LG	76	Victor Allotey (Sr., 3); 73 Paul Mandina (Fr., 0)
C	54	Chris Lee (Sr., 3); 61 Jason Stealy (So., 0)
RG	62	Greg Jenkins (Jr., 2); 66 James Broyles (Fr., 0)
RT	74	Chris Liwienski (Sr., 3); 78 Craig Robeen (So., 0)
TE	85	Ben Klumsmeier (Sr., 3); 84 Randy Maxwell (So., 1)
QB	12	Jay Rodgers (So., 1); 7 Earl Haniford (Fr., 0)
FB	40	Chris Gall (Jr., 2); 42 Dan Irish (Sr., 2)
TB	28	Jason Spear (So., 1); 33 Glynn Johnson (Fr., 0)
WR	2	Versie Gaddis (So., 1); Jimmy Robinson (Jr., 0)
K	30	Andy Payne (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (7)

DE	93	Adewale Ogunleye (So., 1); 68 Jason Czap (So., 1)
DT	95	Benyard Jones (Sr., 2); 70 Albert Haywood (Sr., 2)
DT	75	Damian Gregory (So., 1); 72 Chad Miller (So., 1)
DE	99	Aaron Williams (Jr., 2); 92 Curt Goode (Jr., 2)
LB	55	Jabar Robinson (Jr., 2); 48 Mike Belu (Sr., 2)
LB	53	Kevin Glaser (Sr., 2); 49 Al Phillips (So., 1)
LB	18	James Lamar (So., 1); 35 Vince Lidy (So., 1)
CB	31	Joey Eloms (Sr., 3); 26 Curtis Randle El (So., 1)
CB	40	Joe King (Sr., 3); 6 Patrick Shaw (So., 1)
SS	13	Kywin Supernaw (Sr., 1); 38 Michael McGrath (So., 1)
FS	17	Aaron Warnecke (Sr., 2); 8 Brian Coleman (Jr., 1)
P	25	Alan Sutkowski (Sr., 2)

(#) indicates number of returning starters
BOLD indicates returning starters
Number after class indicates letters won

Top Returning Leaders

Passing: Jay Rodgers, 61-123-1035-6, 3 TDs
Rushing: Jason Spear, 59 car., 226 yds., 4 TDs
Receiving: Dorian Wilkerson, 40 rec., 490 yds., 1 TD
Scoring: Jason Spear, 4 TDs, 24 points
Punting: Alan Sutkowski, 64 punts, 43.4 avg.
Kicking: none
Tackles: Aaron Warnecke, 96, 66 solo
Sacks: Adewale Ogunleye, 8.5
Interceptions: Jabar Robinson, 3 for 45 yards

1997 Schedule

Sept. 6	@ North Carolina
Sept. 13	Ball State
Sept. 20	Kentucky
Sept. 27	@ Wisconsin
Oct. 4	Michigan
Oct. 11	Michigan State
Oct. 18	@ Ohio State
Oct. 25	@ Iowa
Nov. 1	Illinois
Nov. 15	@ Minnesota
Nov. 22	Purdue

Rising Star

Adewale Ogunleye has a name that rolls off the tongue and a game that could steamroll quarterbacks. At 6-4, 260, Ogunleye has great quickness and footwork, an indomitable work ethic, and three years' eligibility remaining.

Hayden Fry spent his 19th spring at Iowa tinkering with replacements for the four vacancies each on offense and defense.

Now, he is spending the early weeks of the pre-season preparing the Hawkeyes for a daunting schedule that includes two stretches of back-to-back road games against some of the toughest teams in the Big Ten. The first swing comes against Ohio State and Michigan, then three weeks later, Wisconsin and Northwestern.

"We will have a good football team, but the quality of our schedule is just unbelievable, particularly when you have to play teams like Ohio State and Michigan back-to-back," Fry says.



Matt Sherman

The Hawkeyes had a strong finish in 1996 with three straight victories en route to a 9-3 record. They were No. 18 in the final AP poll and third in the Big Ten. Despite those numbers, the Hawkeyes still seem to be the overlooked team in the league.

"We've always been looked at that way," Fry says. "We like the underdog role. We're just kind of low-key about it all and try to walk softly and carry a big stick."

quarterbacks

As long as senior Matt Sherman remains healthy, the Hawkeyes are set at this position. Sherman has started 26 consecutive games and was second-team All-Big Ten last season, but there are no experienced backups on the roster.

Sherman, 19-7 as Iowa's starter, is among the league's most efficient passers. He completed 58 percent of his attempts in 1996 and 59 percent during his career. His productivity dropped off slightly last year, but he cut down on mistakes and threw five fewer interceptions than the previous season.

Sophomore Randy Reiners likely will be the backup.

running backs

It won't be that easy to forget the Hawkeyes' dynamic tailback, Sedrick Shaw, who was only the eighth player in Big Ten history to rush for 1,000 yards or more three times.

Shaw may have piled on the rushing yards, but his backup, Tavian Banks, was the leading scorer with 12 touchdowns. A preview of what was to come for the Hawkeyes occurred in the 21-20 upset at Penn State last season when Shaw was hurt and Banks came in to rush for 116 yards and two touchdowns. Banks, a senior, also is a weapon as a receiver out of the backfield.

Junior Michael Burger returns as the starting fullback. He has good size at 6-3, 235 pounds, but more importantly, he is a strong blocker and has good hands. And he averaged 5.4 yards a carry.

receivers

Sherman should boost his passing statistics thanks to a top-notch group of receivers, which very likely will be the strength of this team.

All-Everything Tim Dwight leads the group of four seniors. Dwight had 100-plus receiving yards in three of the final four games and was the Hawkeyes' third-leading scorer with nine touchdowns (four receiving, three rushing and two on punt returns). His final season could be something special — he is a game breaker.

Damon Gibson, Richard Carter and Richard Willock combined for 518 yards on 32 receptions. Kahlil Hill, a 6-3, 185-pound freshman, has the size and speed to work his way into the depth chart.

offensive linemen

The losses of center Bill Reardon and left tackle Ross Verba forced Fry to do some shuffling along the line.

For the third time during Fry's tenure, a tight end is being converted to left tackle. Junior Chris Knipper, a strong blocker who was honorable mention All-Big Ten last season, made the move to tackle during the spring.

Junior Derek Rose, a 10-game starter at right guard, moves to center. To his left will be junior Matt Reischl and to his right will be senior Mike Goff. Senior Jeremy McKinney, a three-time letter-winner, is back to start at right tackle.

defensive linemen

Fry has concentrated in recent years on recruiting bigger, faster linemen, and he thinks he has them. Certainly, the Hawkeyes proved formidable last season, holding five teams to less than 100 yards rushing.



Tim Dwight



Matt Hughes

Steve Woltmann

Junior tackle Jared DeVries, named the most valuable player in Iowa's last two bowl games and an All-Big Ten selection by the media last season, gives to the defense the kind of spark Dwight gives to the offense. DeVries led the Big Ten in tackles for loss (22 for 133 yards) and sacks (13 for 104 yards), and he was tied for fourth on the team with 67 tackles.

The remaining spots in the interior belong to Aron Klein at nose guard and Jon LaFleur at the right tackle. LaFleur contributed 14 tackles for loss and five sacks to the cause.

Senior Jason House and sophomore

Ryan Loftin take over at the vacated end positions.

linebackers

It would be hard not to forgive Fry for being giddy about the Hawkeyes' good fortune with returning juniors Matt Hughes and Vernon Rollins, both of whom started every game last season.

"We probably have the two best linebackers we've had in my 19 years at Iowa," Fry says.

Hughes led the team with 136 tackles and Rollins was second with 126 — they

Three 10 Win Seasons



The Hawkeyes won a school-record 10 games in 1985 — the first of three 10-win seasons under Hayden Fry. They won the Big Ten title and played in the Rose Bowl for the second time in five seasons. Iowa, which spent five weeks ranked No. 1, was led by quarterback Chuck Long, who was runner-up to Bo Jackson in Heisman Trophy voting.

were third and fourth, respectively, in the Big Ten. Rollins scored twice on a fumble recovery and on an interception.

There is little in the way of experience behind them, however.

defensive backs

Cornerback Plez Atkins and strong safety Kerry Cooks are returning senior starters and will be the nucleus of the depleted secondary. Atkins, who started 11 games his first two seasons and all 12 last year, has great quickness and cover ability. Cooks also started every game a year ago, providing strong run support (65 tackles).

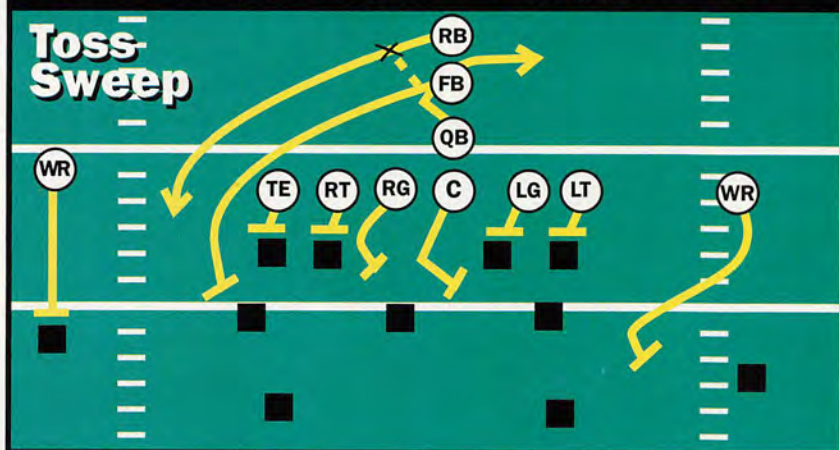
Senior Ed Gibson will start at the left corner and junior Eric Thigpen at free safety. Both have considerable experience. Gibson played in every game, while Thigpen, who had an interception and forced a fumble, played in eight.

397

The number of games Hayden Fry has coached, which is more than any other active Division I coach. "I've been shot at and hit more than anyone else," Fry says, laughing. He has gone 222-165-10 through 34 seasons.

Hawkeyes Critical Play

The Hawkeyes gave all-time leading rusher Sedrick Shaw plenty of opportunities last season with this play. It is designed to benefit strong open-field runners.



specialists

The Hawkeyes lost quite a one-two punch with the departures of Nick Gallery and Brion Hurley. Gallery had been the punter the last four seasons and was All-Big Ten the last two. Hurley's last 10 field goals all covered at least 45 yards.

Junior placekicker Zach Bromert is consistent within 39 yards. Accuracy is not his problem, distance is.

The Hawkeyes must dig deep to replace Gallery. The best bet is incoming freshman Jason Baker.

If Iowa has a special-teams weapon, it is Dwight. He was second nationally with an 18.3-yard average on punt returns and led the Big Ten in that category for the second time in three years.

1997 Iowa Roster

1996 Record:
Big Ten Record:

9-3
6-2

Head Coach:
Hayden Fry

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN	NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
23	Atkins, Plez	DB	6-0	180	Sr.	Bartlett, TX	48	Loftin, Ryan	DE	6-4	235	So.	Waukegan, IA
22	Banks, Tavian	RB	5-11	195	Sr.	Bettendorf, IA	84	Markway, Matt	TE	6-4	235	Fr.	St. Louis, MO
66	Bern, Cory	DL	6-3	275	Fr.	Spencer, IA	92	McCormick, Ryan	TE	6-2	220	So.	Mt. Pleasant, IA
91	Bickford, Jay	DL	6-4	265	So.	Hyde Park, NY	49	McCracken, Jeff	LB	6-2	220	Fr.	Springfield, MO
35	Bollers, Trevor	FB	6-1	240	Jr.	Edmonton, AB	68	McKinney, Jeremy	OL	6-6	295	Sr.	Brighton, CO
19	Bowen, Matt	DB	6-3	190	So.	Glen Ellyn, IL	21	McLaughlin, Greg	K	5-10	190	Fr.	Waterloo, IA
78	Brann, Billy	OL	6-4	280	Fr.	Blue Springs, MO	23	Meier, Frank	WR	6-0	190	So.	Northbrook, IL
38	Bromert, Zach	K	5-10	175	Jr.	Pensacola, FL	39	Miller, Chris	DB	6-1	200	Sr.	Preston, IA
96	Brown, Corey	DL	6-2	275	So.	Houston, TX	29	Miller, Doug	RB	5-11	190	So.	Mt. Pleasant, IA
85	Burger, Michael	FB	6-3	235	Jr.	Harlan, IA	93	Miller, Skip	DE	6-4	225	Fr.	Lawton, IA
72	Burr, Josh	OL	6-7	285	So.	Lancaster, WI	40	Moten, Paul	DE	6-4	220	So.	DeSoto, TX
75	Buss, Shane	DL	6-3	260	Fr.	Allison, IA	31	Palmer, Bart	DE	6-2	220	So.	Lexington, KY
4	Carter, Ricchard	WR	6-0	185	Sr.	Passaic, NJ	42	Peterson, Tariq	DE	6-3	224	So.	Kempner, TX
32	Clark, Jeff	RB	5-11	210	Jr.	Lisbon, IA	54	Phearse, Brandon	LB	6-3	238	So.	Garland, TX
44	Clark, Raj	LB	6-2	240	So.	Baytown, TX	69	Pryor, Shalor	OL	6-4	280	So.	Stephenville, TX
88	Collins, Tony	WR	6-0	175	So.	Davenport, IA	13	Reiners, Randy	QB	6-3	200	So.	Ft. Dodge, IA
15	Cooks, Kerry	DB	6-0	200	Sr.	Irving, TX	76	Reischl, Matt	OL	6-5	295	Jr.	Greendale, WI
70	Craun, Justin	OL	6-6	285	Fr.	Weatherford, TX	57	Rigtrup, Keith	OL	6-5	300	Sr.	Farmington, UT
67	Deal, Chad	OL	6-5	285	So.	Council Bluffs, IA	1	Rodopoulos, Alexe	WR	6-3	200	So.	Blue Springs, MO
94	DeVries, Jared	DL	6-4	265	Jr.	Aplington, IA	56	Rollins, Vernon	LB	6-3	240	Jr.	Hackensack, NJ
82	Dull, Jed	TE	6-3	230	So.	LeMars, IA	64	Rose, Derek	OL	6-4	275	Jr.	Naperville, IL
6	Dwight, Tim	WR	5-9	185	Sr.	Iowa City, IA	98	Saidat, Ed	DL	6-7	255	So.	Alsip, IL
52	English, Steve	DL	6-2	265	Jr.	Mt. Pleasant, IA	7	Shay, Zach	DB	6-0	185	Jr.	Galesburg, IL
72	Epenesa, Epenesa	DL	6-3	260	Sr.	American Samoa	12	Sherman, Matt	QB	6-3	210	Sr.	St. Ansgar, IA
12	Ghere, Jesse	DB	6-1	190	So.	Nora Springs, IA	53	Simon, Jason	OL	6-3	270	Jr.	Aplington, IA
18	Gibson, Damon	WR	5-9	180	Sr.	Houston, TX	11	Slattery, Joe	DB	6-0	180	So.	Pocahontas, IA
26	Gibson, Ed	DB	5-10	180	Sr.	Davenport, IA	95	Smith, Alex	TE	6-5	230	Fr.	Riverside, IL
79	Goff, Mike	OL	6-6	300	Sr.	Peru, IL	43	Stratikopoulos, Tony	LB	6-1	225	Sr.	Montreal, PQ
16	Hauser, Kory	QB	6-5	215	Jr.	New Berlin, WI	60	Tecklenburg, Aaron	LB	6-2	230	Fr.	Marshalltown, IA
17	Hintz, Kurt	K	6-3	210	So.	Antioch, IL	31	Thein, Rob	RB	6-0	220	So.	Iowa City, IA
2	Holman, Tarig	DB	6-0	180	So.	Randolph, NJ	21	Thigpen, Eric	DB	6-1	195	Jr.	Dolton, IL
28	House, Jason	DE	6-3	230	Sr.	Iowa City, IA	14	Tiessen, Trent	DB	5-11	180	Jr.	Council Bluffs, IA
37	Hughes, Matt	LB	6-3	240	Jr.	Eastland, TX	59	Trierweiler, Jason	OL	6-2	265	Jr.	Royal, IA
74	Keat, Brian	DL	6-2	255	Fr.	Carroll, IA	83	Trippier, Kyle	TE	6-5	235	Fr.	Las Cruces, NM
58	Kerkhoff, Jared	OL	6-6	275	Jr.	Manning, IA	77	Walsworth, Joel	OL	6-6	280	So.	Dowagiac, MI
90	Klein, Aron	DL	6-4	285	Jr.	Appleton, WI	86	Wheatley, Austin	TE	6-5	240	So.	Milan, IL
81	Knipper, Chris	TE	6-5	260	Jr.	Dyersville, IA	60	Wilder, John	OL	6-2	265	Jr.	Sioux City, IA
19	Kramer, Jeff	DE	6-3	235	Jr.	Weatherford, TX	25	Willock, Richard	WR	6-2	195	Sr.	Chicago, IL
26	Kyarsgaard, Kit	P	6-0	205	Fr.	Sterling, IL	13	L.J. Wise	DB	5-10	175	So.	Bellefontaine, OH
55	LaFleur, Jon	DL	6-3	275	Sr.	Jefferson, SD	5	Yamini, Bashir	WR	6-4	180	So.	Dolton, IL
33	Lange, J.P.	DB	6-1	180	Sr.	Hartland, WI	59	Yoder, Scott	LB	6-2	230	Sr.	Grundy Center, IA

1997 Signees

NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	HOMETOWN
Baker, Jason	P-K	6-1	182	Ft. Wayne, IN
Beets, Ladel	RB	5-11	200	Blue Sprgs., MO
Brown, Mikkel	DB	5-10	175	Glen Rock, NJ
Crockett, Robbie	RB	6-0	200	Battle Creek, MI
Cunningham, Alonzo	OL	6-4	260	Iowa City, IA
Dolezal, Mike	LB	6-3	225	Mahtomedi, MN
Hall, Shane	DB	6-0	180	Burnsville, MN
Herron, Anthony	DL	6-5	255	Bolingbrook, IL
Hill, Kahili	WR	6-3	185	Iowa City, IA
Honore, Carlos	RB	5-11	180	Iowa City, IA
McCann, Kyle	QB	6-5	180	Creston, IA
Meyer, Roger	LB	6-3	235	Rock Rapids, IA
O'Hare, Cody	LB-DE	6-4	200	Waverly, IA
Sobieski, Ben	DL	6-6	285	Mahtomedi, MN
Stockdale, Matt	DB	5-11	183	Iowa Falls, IA
Sturgill, Paul	OL	6-10	310	Tipton, MI
Trappe, Christoph	OL	6-5	285	Iowa City, IA

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

SE 18 Damon Gibson (Sr., 2); 4 Ricchard Carter (Sr., 2)
LT 67 Chad Deal (So., 0); 78 Billy Brann (Fr., 0)
LG 76 Matt Reischl (Jr., 2); 69 Shalor Pryor (So., 0)
C 64 Derek Rose (Jr., 1); 91 Jay Bickford (So., 0)
RG 79 Mike Goff (Sr., 3); 70 Justin Craun (Fr., 0)
RT 68 Jeremy McKinney (Sr., 3); 57 Keith Rigtrup (Sr., 0)
TE 81 Chris Knipper (Jr., 2); 82 Jed Dull (So., 1)
QB 12 Matt Sherman (Sr., 3); 13 Randy Reiners (So., 0)
FB 85 Michael Burger (Jr., 2); 35 Trevor Bollers (Jr., 2)
TB 22 Tavian Banks (Sr., 3); 31 Rob Thein (So., 1)
FL 6 Dwight, Tim (Sr., 3); 25 Richard Willock (Sr., 2)
K 38 Zach Bromert (Jr., 2); 17 Kurt Hintz (So., 0)

DEFENSE (7)

DE 28 Jason House (Sr., 3); 42 Tariq Peterson (So., 0)
DT 94 Jared DeVries (Jr., 2); 98 Ed Saidat (So., 0)
NG 90 Aron Klein (Jr., 2); 96 Corey Brown (So., 1)
DT 55 Jon LaFleur (Sr., 3); 72 Epenesa Epenesa (Sr., 0)
DE 48 Ryan Loftin (So., 1); 95 Evan Wardell (So., 0)
LB 37 Matt Hughes (Jr., 2); 44 Raj Clark (So., 0)
LB 56 Vernon Rollins (Jr., 2); 54 Brandon Hearse (So., 0)
CB 26 Ed Gibson (Sr., 2); 11 Joe Slattery (So., 0)
CB 23 Plez Atkins (Sr., 3); 2 Tarig Holman (So., 0)
SS 15 Kerry Cooks (Sr., 3); 33 J.P. Lange (Sr., 1)
FS 21 Eric Thigpen (Jr., 2); 19 Matt Bowen (So., 0)
P 86 Austin Wheatley (So., 0); 29 Doug Miller (So., 0)

(#) indicates number of returning starters
BOLD indicates returning starters
 Number after class indicates letters won

Top Returning Leaders

Passing: Matt Sherman, 152-264-1918-10, 12 TDs
Rushing: Tavian Banks, 144 car., 629 yds., 9 TDs
Receiving: Tim Dwight, 51 rec., 751 yds., 4 TDs
Scoring: Tavian Banks, 10 TDs, 1 PAT, 62 points
Punting: none
Kicking: Zach Bromert, 8-10 FGs, 36-37 XP
Tackles: Matt Hughes, 136, 92 solo
Sacks: Jared DeVries, 13
Interceptions: Plez Atkins, 2 for 43 yards

1997 Schedule

Sept. 6 Northern Iowa
 Sept. 13 Tulsa
 Sept. 20 @ Iowa State
 Sept. 27 Illinois
 Oct. 4 @ Ohio State
 Oct. 18 @ Michigan
 Oct. 25 Indiana
 Nov. 1 Purdue
 Nov. 8 @ Wisconsin
 Nov. 15 @ Northwestern
 Nov. 22 Minnesota

Rising Star

Sophomore Ryan Loftin, a 6-4, 235-pound defensive end from Waukegan, Iowa, has the combination of size and quickness the Hawkeyes have been seeking in recent years. Loftin played in all 11 games in '96 and is now a starter.

It has been a stretch that has provided more disappointment than exultation in Ann Arbor. The Michigan Wolverines have endured four-straight four-loss seasons, and a senior class graduated never having gone to the Rose Bowl.

These results border on sacrilege and have made some wonder whether the block M is beginning to stand for "middle of the road."

"The past three or four years, we've not been the same Michigan," says Marcus Ray, junior strong safety. "And maybe teams are starting to lose respect but they shouldn't. I came here expecting victory and I still expect victory."

Michigan returns 16 starters but faces its



Charles Woodson

toughest schedule in three years: Notre Dame plus seven opponents that played in bowl games. The Wolverines have key holes to fill on the offensive line and in the kicking game, and controversy is brewing at quarterback.

quarterbacks

Michigan coach Lloyd Carr does not like controversy, but he admits it could exist with four vying for the starting job. All are some variations of the classic Michigan mold — tall, dropback passers.

Junior Scott Dreisbach is the veteran of the veterans, having started all 11 regular-season games last year and four the previous season. But fifth-year senior Brian Griese is not far off. Sophomore Tom Brady, who saw minimal time in 1996, returns, as does highly regarded redshirt freshman Jason Kapsner.

Griese, the son of NFL Hall of Famer Bob Griese, will begin the season at No. 1. He was 5-4 as a starter in '95 after taking over for an injured Dreisbach. His teammates like his leadership qualities, and the coaches like his decision making. He surprised them all returning for his fifth year.

Dreisbach not only brings experience, but he is mobile, has an accurate arm and does not shy away from contact. He also might have the most motivation. Dreisbach was knocked out of the Ohio State game after first-half injuries, and Griese orchestrated the 13-9 come-from-behind victory in the second half. Griese was rewarded with the Outback Bowl start.

The one to watch will be Kapsner. At 6-6, 220 pounds, he is the biggest quarterback Michigan has ever had. He throws hard, he can scramble, he's accurate and he has a durable body.

running backs

Senior Chris Howard and junior Clarence Williams, considered co-No. 1 tailbacks, may lose ground to a freshman.

Anthony Thomas, is ranked among the nation's top high school players. Running backs coach Fred Jackson says Thomas is reminiscent of former Michigan back Tyrone Wheatley. He has speed and balance, and could earn the starting job.

Howard and Williams are an effective one-two punch. Howard is a bruising inside runner who carried 148 times for 698 yards and 10 touchdowns. Williams, who had 190 rushes for 779 yards, is shifty and elusive, and scored three times.

Michigan, under new offensive coordinator Mike DeBord, will feature more two-back sets. Senior Chris Floyd, who missed spring practice while recovering from shoulder surgery, will be the lead fullback. He will alternate with sophomore John Anes, who was used in goal-line situations.

wide receivers

All-America cornerback Charles Woodson was also used effectively at receiver. He caught 10 passes for 139 yards. Carr says he will be a factor again.

Wolverines starters Tai Streets and Russell Shaw, return. Streets, a powerful runner who broke for a 69-yard touchdown against Ohio State, had 42 receptions for 718 yards. Shaw, Michigan's deep threat, had 27 catches for 300 yards.

offensive linemen

The left side of the line warrants concern. Michigan will rely on its youth movement. Red-shirt freshman Jeff Backus, who missed spring practice while recovering from an emergency appendectomy, has great technique and is considered a potential starter at left tackle. Sophomore tackle Jeff Potts could also be a factor. Defensive tackle Chris Ziemann was switched to the offense at tackle to add depth.

Steve Hutchinson, another redshirt freshman, and junior Nate Miller are leading candidates at left guard. Freshman Dave Brandt, sophomore Steve Frazier and Miller are contending to replace All-Big Ten center Rod Payne, who graduated.

Jamie Squire/Allsport



Clarence Williams



Jerame Tuman

Right side experience will come from senior guard Zach Adami and junior tackle Jon Jansen. They started every game in 1996.

defensive linemen

The likely replacement for All-Big Ten nose tackle William Carr is sophomore Rob Renes, who's size is reminiscent of Carr. Renes is agile and quick and put in valuable playing time last season.

Senior Ben Huff returns as starting tackle. Defensive end Glen Steele, a senior who suffers from chronic lower-back problems, proved his effectiveness against

Orlando Pace in the Ohio State game.

At the other end, David Bowens at 6-3 is small for the position but makes up for it with his speed. The junior had 11 sacks, which tied Michigan's single-season record.

linebackers

Sam Sword will be the one to watch. This junior led the team with 108 tackles and his speed should make tailbacks nervous.

Senior Rob Swett, who started eight games in 1995, could replace the graduated Jarrett Irons, but the Wolverines may go

Wolverine Heisman

The votes had not yet been tallied in 1991, but Desmond Howard must have known something. Howard returned a punt 93 yards for a touchdown against Ohio State in Ann Arbor, then struck the Heisman pose in the end zone. A few weeks later, he became Michigan's second recipient of the Heisman Trophy. Tom Harmon was the first.



with Grady Brooks, a redshirt freshman. During practice, Brooks' speed and ability to get to the ball was impressive.

At outside linebacker, the Wolverines lost veteran Mike Elston to chronic injuries, so junior Clint Copenhaver, who started the final five games, likely will get the job.

defensive backs

Three starters are back, promising more of their same heavy hitting.

Woodson, with his team-high four interceptions, plus one in the Outback Bowl, is singled out by every opposing coach as the player most feared. The other corner spot may not be decided until just before the opener. Incoming freshman James Whitley has been described as another Woodson.

105,932

The average attendance at Michigan Stadium in 1996. Although that led the nation, it was shy of the national record (106,217) the Wolverines set in 1994.

Safeties Marcus Ray and Daydrion Taylor, both juniors, should pick up where they left off. Ray was the third-leading tackler with 104, and he also had three interceptions. Taylor is known for his bone-crunching hits and is an intimidating force.

specialists

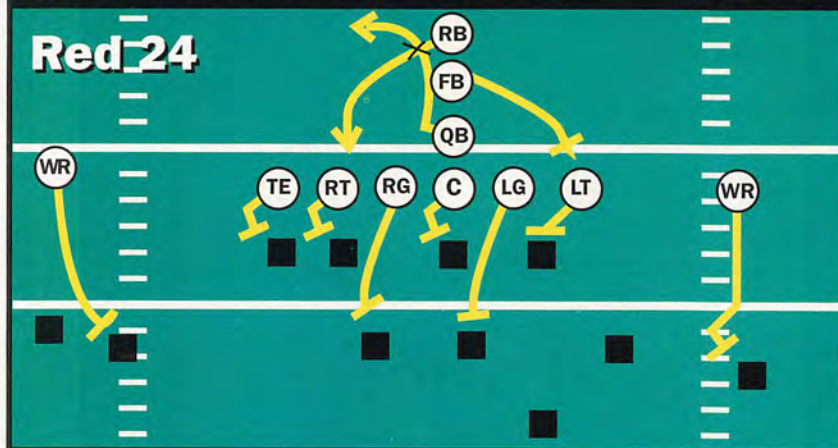
Michigan must replace punter Paul Peristeris and its most proficient placekicker, Remy Hamilton, who set a school-record with 63 field goals, including bowl games.

Juniors Jay Feely, who handled kickoffs the last two seasons, and Kraig Baker have strong legs but are untested in field-goal situations. Feely made his only extra-point attempt in 1995, and Baker returns after redshirting last year. He was the regular punter in 1994.

Cory Sargent, a redshirt freshman, likely will be the punter this season. Junior walk-on Jason Vinson, however, has an impressive leg and history on his side.

Wolverines Critical Play

Typically, as seen last season, Michigan goes with Red 24, a rushing play that averaged 4.8 yards on first down.



IT'S TIME FOR A GOOD OLD MACRO- BREW.



IT'S MILLER TIME.

1997 Michigan Roster

1996 Record: 8-4
Big Ten Record: 5-3

Head Coach:
Lloyd Carr

NO. NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN	NO. NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
68 Adami, Zach	G	6-5	282	Sr.	Maumelle, AR	85 Knight, Marcus	WR	6-1	167	So.	Sylacauga, AL
34 Anes, John	FB	6-2	224	So.	Kentwood, MI	3 Kornblue, Brandon	K	5-10	160	So.	Boca Raton, FL
79 Backus, Jeff	T	6-6	273	Fr.	Norcross, GA	95 Kratus, Pat	DE	6-3	260	So.	Rocky River, OH
46 Baker, Kraig	K	6-1	183	Jr.	Terre Haute, IN	26 Mayes, Eric	ILB	5-11	209	Sr.	Kalamazoo, MI
6 Bowens, David	DE	6-3	236	Jr.	Pontiac, MI	60 Miller, Nate	G-C	6-3	264	Jr.	Imlay City, MI
10 Brady, Tom	QB	6-5	215	So.	San Mateo, CA	23 Parachek, Scott	WR	6-1	191	Jr.	Temperance, MI
67 Brandt, David	C	6-4	276	Fr.	Jenison, MI	61 Parini, Sean	OLB	6-2	223	Sr.	Grand Rapids, MI
3 Brooks, Todd	WR	6-0	193	Jr.	Freeport, IL	8 Parini, Ryan	FSP	6-1	179	Fr.	Grand Rapids, MI
59 Brooks, Grady	OLB	6-2	256	Fr.	Dallas, TX	78 Parker, Noah	G-T	6-4	283	Jr.	Milton, FL
18 Brown, LeAundre	CB	5-10	177	Fr.	Arlington, TX	45 Petterson, Darren	WR	5-10	172	Jr.	Flint, MI
22 Bryant, Kevin	WR	6-0	175	So.	Farmington Hills, MI	71 Potts, Jeff	T	6-7	276	So.	Three Rivers, MI
1 Butterfield, Tyrone	WR	5-8	172	Jr.	Miami, FL	25 Quinn, Terrence	WR	5-10	187	Jr.	Flint, MI
88 Campbell, Mark	TE	6-6	250	Jr.	Clawson, MI	29 Ray, Marcus	SS	6-0	205	Jr.	Columbus, OH
82 Carpenter, Chad	TE	6-4	243	Fr.	Bloomington, IN	58 Renes, Rob	NT	6-1	279	So.	Holland, MI
42 Chandler, Jared	K	6-1	170	Fr.	Westlake, OH	93 Roth, Chris	FB	5-11	204	Fr.	Windsor, ON
50 Chrispin, David	ILB	6-1	234	Sr.	Dearborn Hts., MI	17 Sargent, Cory	P	6-3	185	Fr.	South Lyon, MI
26 Clyne, Jason	K	6-3	186	So.	New Baltimore, MI	42 Schanski, Tate	RB	5-11	191	So.	Perry, MI
43 Copenhaver, Clint	OLB	6-4	237	Jr.	Brighton, MI	65 Sechler, Andy	OLB	6-1	197	Fr.	Union City, MI
34 Cummings, Jason	RB	5-11	171	Jr.	Kalamazoo, MI	4 Shaw, Russell	WR	6-0	178	Sr.	Los Angeles, CA
95 Del Verne, Jeff	K	5-11	217	Fr.	Sylvania, OH	36 Shea, Aaron	TE	6-4	246	So.	Ottawa, IL
12 Dreisbach, Scott	QB	6-4	208	Jr.	Mishawaka, IN	57 Singletary, Chris	DE	6-2	221	Jr.	Detroit, MI
90 Feazell, Juquin	DE	6-4	268	Jr.	Ft. Valley, GA	99 Smokevitch, Jeff	ILB	6-0	207	So.	Birmingham, MI
49 Feely, Jay	K	5-10	190	Jr.	Odessa, FL	81 Steele, Glen	DE	6-5	281	Sr.	Ligonier, IN
7 Floyd, Chris	FB	6-1	227	Sr.	Detroit, MI	92 Stock, Chad	K	5-10	185	So.	Temperance, MI
39 Ford, J.R.	RB	5-8	190	So.	Columbus, OH	86 Streets, Tai	WR	6-2	185	Jr.	Matteson, IL
64 Frazier, Steve	C	6-4	280	So.	Kingwood, TX	44 Swett, Rob	OLB	6-3	232	Sr.	Chalfont, PA
20 Gold, Ian	QB	6-1	200	So.	Belleville, MI	93 Sword, Sam	ILB	6-2	239	Jr.	Saginaw, MI
14 Giese, Brian	QB	6-3	207	Sr.	Miami, FL	73 Tannous, Paul	T	6-5	270	Fr.	Houston, TX
56 Hall, James	DE	6-3	250	So.	New Orleans, LA	28 Taylor, Daydrion	FS	6-0	192	Jr.	Longview, TX
41 Hendricks, Tom	SS	6-2	200	So.	Houston, TX	80 Tuman, Jerame	TE	6-5	233	Jr.	Liberal, KS
17 Henman, Chad	WR	5-10	181	Fr.	Temperance, MI	31 Turner, Rick	WR	6-2	176	Jr.	Grand Rapids, MI
45 Holtry, Jeff	OLB	6-3	235	So.	Salt Lake City, UT	38 Vinson, Jason	P	6-2	194	Jr.	Troy, MI
8 Howard, Chris	RB	5-11	214	Sr.	River Ridge, LA	63 Warner, Eric	G	6-5	231	Fr.	Brighton, MI
53 Huff, Ben	DT	6-4	273	Fr.	Charlotte, NC	16 Washington, Brent	CB	6-0	184	So.	Inskter MI
76 Hutchinson, Steve	G	6-5	293	Fr.	Coral Springs, FL	30 Weathers, Andre	CB	6-0	183	Jr.	Flint, MI
31 Jackson, Kenneth	CB	5-10	179	So.	Houston, TX	15 Williams, Dan	QB	6-0	164	Fr.	Temperance, MI
77 Jansen, Jon	T	6-7	290	Jr.	Clawson, MI	91 Williams, Josh	DT	6-3	267	So.	Houston, TX
83 Johnson, Jerry	WR	6-4	180	Fr.	Crowley, LA	33 Williams, Clarence	RB	5-9	196	Jr.	Detroit, MI
9 Johnson, DiAllo	FS	6-3	185	So.	Detroit, MI	94 Wilson, Eric	DT	6-4	266	Fr.	Monroe, MI
55 Jones, Dhani	ILB	6-2	207	So.	Potomac, MD	2 Woodson, Charles	CB-WR	6-1	197	Jr.	Fremont, OH
13 Kapsner, Jason	QB	6-6	220	Fr.	Eden Prairie, MN	19 Wright, Aaron	WR	6-0	172	Fr.	Highland Village, TX
89 Keefer, Colby	TE	6-3	230	Sr.	Holly, MI	52 Ziemann, Chris	T	6-7	262	So.	Aurora, IL

1997 Signees

NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	HOMETOWN
Adkins, Adam	OL	6-4	245	Troy, MI
Anderson, Kurt	LB	6-5	230	Glenbrook, IL
Brackins, Eric	LB	6-3	190	Pigeon Forge, TN
Brooks, Jason	OL	6-4	270	Cleveland, OH
Frysinger, Jake	LB	6-3	220	Grosse Ile, MI
Jackson, Ray	RB	6-4	210	Indianapolis, IN
Jordan, Anthony	LB	6-1	210	Jersey City, NJ
Mast, Ben	OL	6-5	275	Massillon, OH
McCall, Patrick	RB	5-10	185	Carson, CA
Mossa, Todd	OL	6-3	285	Darien, CT
Patmon, DeWayne	DB	6-0	175	San Diego, CA
Peterson, William	DB	6-1	186	Uniontown, PA
Rosel, Eric	DB	6-5	200	Liberal, KS
Seymour, Bill	DL	6-4	206	Granger, IN
Smith, Demetrius	RB	6-2	265	Calumet Park, IL
Thomas, Anthony	RB	6-2	220	Winnfield, LA
Thompson, Shawn	TE	6-4	215	Saginaw, MI
Whitley, James	DB	6-0	180	Norfolk, VA
Williams, Maurice	DT	6-5	245	Detroit, MI

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

WR 86 Tai Streets (Jr., 2); 2 Charles Woodson (Jr., 2)
LT 79 Jeff Backus (Fr., 0); 71 Jeff Potts (So., 1)
LG 76 Steve Hutchinson (Fr., 0); 60 Nate Miller (Jr., 0)
C 64 Steve Frazier (So., 0); 67 David Brandt (Fr., 0)
RG 68 Zach Adami (Sr., 3); 78 Noah Parker (Jr., 1)
RT 77 Jon Jansen (Jr., 2); 52 Chris Ziemann (So., 1)
TE 80 Jerame Tuman (Jr., 2); 88 Mark Campbell (Jr., 2)
QB 14 Brian Giese (Sr., 3); 13 Jason Kapsner (Fr., 0)
FB 7 Chris Floyd (Sr., 3); 34 John Anes (So., 1)
TB 8 Chris Howard (Sr., 3); 33 Clarence Williams (Jr., 2)
WR 4 Russell Shaw (Sr., 1); 85 Marcus Knight (So., 1)
K 49 Jay Freely (Jr., 2); 46 Kraig Baker (Jr., 1)

DEFENSE (9)

DE 81 Glen Steele (Sr., 3); 90 Juquin Feazell (Jr., 2)
NT 58 Rob Renes (So., 1); 94 Eric Wilson (Fr., 0)
DT 53 Ben Huff (Sr., 3); 91 Josh Williams (So., 1)
DE 6 David Bowens (Jr., 2); 56 James Hall (So., 1)
LB 43 Clint Copenhaver (Jr., 2); 55 Dhani Jones (So., 1)
LB 93 Sam Sword (Jr., 2); 26 Eric Mayes (Sr., 2)
LB 44 Rob Swett (Sr., 3); 59 Grady Brooks (Fr., 0)
CB 16 Brent Washington (So., 1); James Whitley (Fr., 0)
CB 2 Charles Woodson (Jr., 2); 30 Andre Weathers (Jr., 2)
SS 29 Marcus Ray (Jr., 2); 41 Tom Hendricks (So., 1)
FS 28 Daydrion Taylor (Jr., 2); 9 DiAllo Johnson (So., 0)
P 17 Cory Sargent (Fr., 0); 38 Jason Vinson (Jr., 0)

(#) indicates number of returning starters
BOLD indicates returning starters
 Number after class indicates letters won

Top Returning Leaders

Passing: Scott Dreisbach, 149-269-2,025-9, 12 TDs
Rushing: Clarence Williams, 202 car., 837 yds., 2 TDs
Receiving: Tai Streets, 44 rec., 730 yds., 2 TDs
Scoring: Chris Howard, 10 TDs, 60 points
Punting: Brian Giese, 13 punts, 33.0 avg.
Kicking: none
Tackles: Sam Sword, 99, 65 solo
Sacks: David Bowens, 11
Interceptions: Charles Woodson, 5 for 28 yards

Stats include Outback Bowl game

1997 Schedule

Sept. 13 Colorado
 Sept. 20 Baylor
 Sept. 27 Notre Dame
 Oct. 4 @ Indiana
 Oct. 11 Northwestern
 Oct. 18 Iowa
 Oct. 25 @ Michigan St.
 Nov. 1 Minnesota
 Nov. 8 @ Penn State
 Nov. 15 @ Wisconsin
 Nov. 22 Ohio State

Rising Star

It isn't often a young offensive lineman, particularly at Michigan, gains much notice. But the Wolverines expect redshirt freshman Jeff Backus, a 6-6, 273-pounder, to start at left tackle. Backus missed spring practice, however, while he recovered from an emergency appendectomy.

Here's to those extraordinary few who deliver on their promises.

The promise of extraordinary taste.



Since 1882.

Rookie of the Year, 5 time All-Pro, Hall of Famer and Coach of the Year, Mike Ditka delivered the World Championship.

Brian Griese: The Consummate Team Player

By ANGELIQUE CHENGELIS
THE DETROIT NEWS

Ten games had passed, and Brian Griese thought maybe he had had enough. He had seen little time at quarterback, and his only significant contribution to the Michigan football team was as a pooch punter.

But that all changed at the start of the second half against Ohio State as the Wolverines trailed 9-0 in Columbus. With starter Scott Dreisbach sidelined with a mild concussion and an elbow injury, it was Griese's opportunity to lead and shine. The second play of the half helped change not only the outcome of that game, but in retrospect, it changed Griese's outlook on his college career.

On that play, he completed a 69-yard touchdown pass to split end Tai Streets to swing the game's momentum and ultimately spark Michigan to a 13-9 upset. For the second straight year, Griese had quarterbacked the Wolverines to victory against a superior Ohio State team.

"I had strong feelings I wouldn't come back," Griese says of his emotions before the OSU game. "But that game reminded me how much fun it can be."

It has been a long road back for Griese, who will be a fifth-year senior and the Wolverines' likely choice as starter in the opener against Colorado. He has thrown for 2,090 yards and 16 touchdowns during his college career.

Griese was the starter most of the 1995 season after replacing Dreisbach, who suffered a season-ending injury. Griese endured plenty of criticism as he went 5-4 on the heels of Dreisbach's 3-0 start.

"I didn't listen to radio shows," says Griese, the youngest son of Hall of Fame quarterback Bob Griese. "I read the papers, and I got a lot of criticism in the paper from certain people who I didn't feel were fair. But you can't get frustrated by the media."

"My father says it's just part of being the



Courtland Richards

big 10 feature

quarterback and part of growing up in athletics and part of growing up in life. As funny as it might seem, you can build character from getting booed or getting written about in the paper. It's something unique to the position that you learn to deal with."

Griese endured more shots when his personal life took a very public hit. He was charged in April 1996 with a felony for malicious destruction of a building. Griese had been inebriated and disorderly the night he smashed the front window of a local bar.

"It's something that got out of hand," Griese says of the incident. "I don't like to talk about it because I'm not proud of it. But it was me. I've learned from it and I've put it behind me."

Griese basically slipped into anonymity during the 1996 season. He was relegated to a backup role, and his major contribution came as the pooch punter.

"Obviously, I want to be the starting quarterback," Griese says. "Anybody who plays strives to be the No. 1 guy. My goals (in 1995) were kind of selfish. I wanted to play at the beginning of the year, and I was upset that I wasn't the one who was picked to be the starter when I thought I should have been. Now, my only goal is for us to go to the Rose Bowl. That's all that matters to me. I know that sounds corny but that's it. Individually, I don't have anything to prove to anybody."

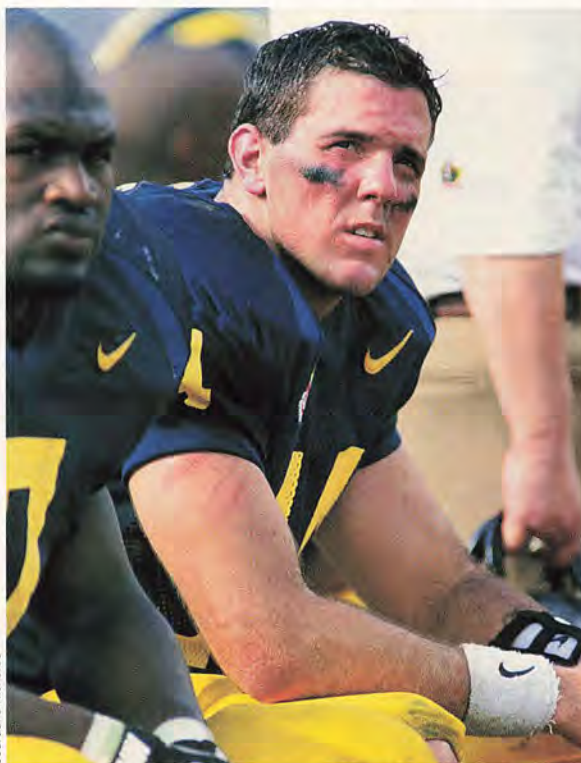
How he dealt with his arrest and losing the starting job impressed the coaching staff as much as his performance in the Ohio State game. He had the ability to successfully overcome the disappointments of his career and to show poise when inserted as a punter or in a mop-up situation at quarterback, and that carries a lot of weight among Michigan coaches.

"Griese earned the respect of his teammates and coaches," says Michigan coach Lloyd Carr. "The thing I admire most about him is that he certainly didn't like his role, but his self-discipline made him able to go out and compete every day."

Says Bob Griese: "I was very impressed, but I wasn't surprised. He handled it very well."

And he was rewarded. As the Wolverines prepared for the Outback Bowl against Alabama, Dreisbach was slated to start. But in the days before the game, Carr hedged when asked about the quarterback situation. Carr, who said he never wanted a quarterback controversy, suddenly had one.

Griese made his first start since the Alamo Bowl at the end of 1995, and he



Courtland Richards

"Obviously, I want to be the starting quarterback," Griese says. "Anybody who plays strives to be the No. 1 guy."

played the entire game. Carr said he based his decision to start Griese on practice performance and the fact that Dreisbach had not fully recovered from the injuries suffered in the Ohio State game. The Wolverines lost to Alabama 17-14, but Griese played admirably, completing 21 of his 37 for 287 yards and a touchdown.

Even after the game, Griese was uncertain whether he would return. He was going to graduate on time, and there was part of him that kept telling him to move along and go on with his life.

He went home to Miami, to spend time with his father and brother, and it was hard to deny the advice he received.

"Hell, he's only 22 years old, and he's got the rest of his life," Bob Griese says. "I said, 'Brian, there's no hurry.' But he was frustrated by not being able to help more. When he came here, he said he wanted to help get them to the Rose Bowl. I said, 'You'd feel awfully bad if they went to the Rose Bowl this year, and you weren't around.'"

"I think it was his older brother who got to him. We were out to dinner one night after I talked to him about it, and he said, 'Brian, you're crazy. You don't need to hurry up and get out of here.' His older brother works. He said, 'Go back to school and have some fun.' It was the end of the year, he was playing very well, and he got an opportunity to play and to help the team. That's all he's ever wanted. I think that's what influenced him, probably. I was happy he made that decision."

Griese decided to return not because he had been guaranteed a starting job from the Michigan staff but because he felt he would have a fair shot and that he could become part of a Rose Bowl team.

"It's what I felt in my heart I wanted to do," says Griese, who graduated last May with a degree in environmental policy. "It's hard to leave this place. I couldn't sit home in the fall and watch Michigan football games and think I could be out there. I just wanted to have the opportunity

to compete and play. I wouldn't come back if I didn't have that opportunity."

He was given the opportunity and, apparently, he has made good on it. Carr says he will not choose a starter until midway through fall practice. But coming out of spring drills, Griese had the edge. He has big-game experience and poise, and that should be enough to win him the job.

"Personally, I've come a long way, and not just as an athlete," Griese says. "I've grown up as a person this spring. I've tried to take a little more responsibility, which this team needs. Hopefully, it'll carry over and help us this season." ■

Despite a 12-11-1 record in two years, including two bowl losses by a total of 57 points, Michigan State Coach Nick Saban quickly built a strong reputation in the Big Ten.

"People talk about Michigan State being one of the most likely (Big Ten) teams to compete consistently with the big three (Michigan, Ohio State and Penn State)," says ESPN Big Ten analyst Gary Danielson.

Before the Spartans can be considered a member of the big four, they must first navigate past Northwestern, Wisconsin and Iowa. Those four schools have recently made brief arguments for inclusion. So why does Danielson believe MSU



Sedrick Irvin

has the potential to break through? Says Danielson, "If Saban is there in 10 years, they will be there. They'll make it the big four."

There's one catch. After being courted by the NFL's Giants, Saban decided to stay at MSU for now. But a decade? Don't count on it.

quarterbacks

Even when he's healthy, senior Todd Schultz lacks mobility. He picked apart bad teams, but looked mediocre against better defenses that have speed and were able to put pressure on him.

Schultz's status remains somewhat uncertain going into the season. He injured his right knee three times last season and finally needed surgery. That forced him to miss spring practice, but the Spartans are hopeful he will be ready for the opener.

If not, the job likely goes to sophomore Bill Burke, a left-hander who runs well but must improve his decision-making. Back injuries have hindered his development over the past year.

running backs

The Spartans could have the best trio in the

Big Ten. Sedrick Irvin rushed for 1,067 yards and scored 18 touchdowns as a freshman last season. Marc Renaud, who gained 1,057 yards as a sophomore in 1995, is hoping to return after being academically ineligible last year.

The rising star, though, is sophomore Leroy McFadden, who practiced with the team last season but wasn't eligible because of an NCAA Clearinghouse snag. McFadden chose MSU over Nebraska and Michigan after attending a prep school for a year. At 6-3, 230 pounds, he is the Spartans' fastest back.

receivers

The loss of Derrick Mason and Nigea Carter creates a void. Senior Octavis Long, 4.3 speed, has learned to catch the ball more consistently and will be the No. 1 deep threat. Sophomore Gari Scott had an excellent spring and has shown long-ball potential.

Tight end Josh Keur is a good blocker but dropped some passes in crucial situations. Keur's blocking enhances the running game, but the Spartans put an emphasis on recruiting some more athletic tight ends. In passing situations the Spartans could get some immediate production from freshmen Ivory McCoy and Chris Baker.

offensive linemen

Flozell Adams, a 6-7, 325-pound tackle, anchors the line. In the past, he has played on the right side because he has trouble hearing with his right ear. Most standout tackles play on the left side, a right-handed quarterback's blind side. This spring, equipped with a special hearing device, Adams moved to the left side. The change has been a success and Saban believes the move will strengthen the Spartans' attack.

When Saban's staff took over in the winter of '95, Adams was sadly overweight (about 365) and going nowhere. But Adams got his act together and is an now All-America candidate. Draft analyst Mel Kiper projected him as a possible late first-round pick in last spring's NFL draft, but Adams opted to return to MSU for his final year. Proving he can play left tackle should improve his stock for next year's NFL draft.

Two other seniors, guard Dave Mudge and tackle Scott Shaw, will start. The Spartans lack depth on the line.

defensive linemen

The Spartans thought they had a potential All-Big Ten defensive tackle, possibly a future All-America candidate, in sophomore Robert Newkirk. But Newkirk was suspended by Saban after being charged with illegal use of a credit card, and he's not expected to return to the team.

That moves sophomore Pete Govens, who was

Courtland Richards

Courtland Richards



Flozell Adams



Ike Reese

Courtland Richards

Magical Season Ends With a Rose



The Spartans' magical 1987 season opened with a 27-13 victory over Southern Cal on Labor Day in East Lansing, and ended with a 20-17 victory over Southern Cal on New Year's Day in Pasadena, Calif. It was MSU's first Rose Bowl appearance in 21 years. The Spartans attempted seven passes while relying on tailback Lorenzo White (35 carries, 113 yards, two touchdowns).

other outside linebacker position.

The Spartans must replace Reggie Garnett, a four-year starter at middle linebacker. The top candidate is sophomore Mike Austin. He made 63 tackles as a freshman and won the job during the spring. His quickness enables him to cover the entire field. Senior Tyrone Garland started five games when Garnett was injured.

defensive backs

Junior Amp Campbell and senior Ray Hill will be the starting cornerbacks. Junior Sorie Kanu is the free safety, and senior Dan Hackenbracht earned the strong safety job, but tore his ACL and will miss most of the season. Sophomore Aric Morris is now the man there.

83-26

That's how bad MSU has been outscored in Nick Saban's two bowl games, including 38-0 against Stanford in last year's Sun Bowl.

a second-string end last season, into a starting role at tackle with junior Desmond Thomas. Govens is extremely physical and had a productive spring clogging up the middle against the run.

The addition of sophomore Robaire Smith should allow MSU to move Courtney Ledyard from defensive end to his normal position at linebacker. Smith and junior Dimitrios Underwood are the projected starting ends. Saban expects Smith to be an exceptional player and Big Ten offenses will soon learn to avoid running plays in his direction. His presence improves the defense

not only on the line, but also at linebacker by allowing Ledyard to play the position more suited to his talents.

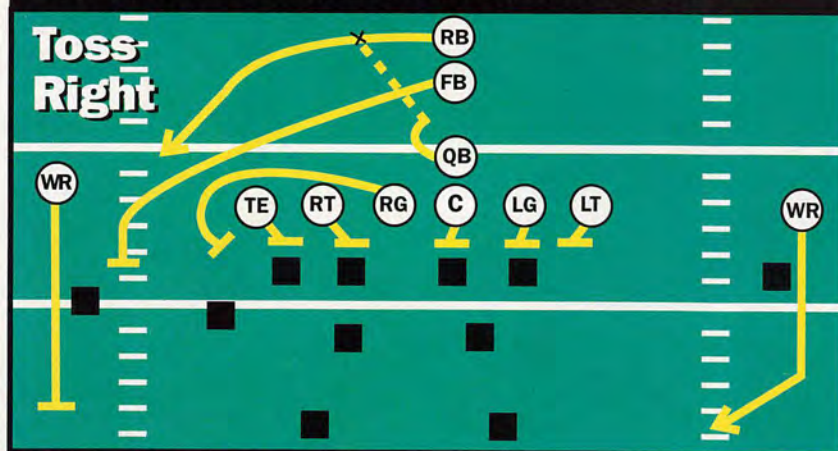
As with the offense, the line lacks depth, partly because of players who have been lost for academic reasons. There could be some true freshmen in the two-deep by the first game.

linebackers

Ike Reese, sixth in the Big Ten with 115 tackles last season, should be among the candidates for the Butkus Award. Ledyard brings his physical style of play to the

Spartans Critical Play

"Toss Right" is play the Spartans ran frequently in 1987 to feature tailback Lorenzo White. They are expected to rely on it a lot this year with Sedrick Irvin and Leroy McFadden.



Junior Lemar Marshall has played in 23 games his first two years, including two starts at cornerback as a freshman and six starts at strong safety last season. He will be a floater, backing up at several positions.

MSU reduced the number of big plays (20-plus yards, as defined by Saban) allowed from 68 in 1995 to 48 last season, largely because the secondary improved. But there were still problems, especially in big games, and that will keep MSU from contending for the conference title unless they're corrected.

specialists

Senior kicker Chris Gardner improved his range. Two years ago, the coaches didn't trust him with long field-goal attempts. Last season, he made seven from at least 43 yards, including two 49-yarders. Sophomore Paul Edinger, recruited as a kicker, got forced into the punting duties but averaged 41 yards.

1997 Michigan State Roster

1996 Record:
Big Ten Record:

6-6
5-3

Head Coach:
Nick Saban

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN	NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
76	Adams, Flozell	T	6-7	330	Sr.	Bellwood, IL	13	Migaldi, Domenic	K	6-1	187	Sr.	Lansing, MI
75	Adkins, Shane	T	6-6	280	So.	Newark, OH	47	Manns, Jeremy	LB	6-3	218	So.	Kenton, OH
25	Austin, Mike	LB	6-3	234	So.	Xenia, OH	29	Marshall, Lemar	CB	6-2	205	Jr.	Cincinnati, OH
4	Axler, Max	K	5-9	170	So.	Shaker Heights, OH	71	Mason, Shaun	OG	6-5	285	Fr.	Toledo, OH
38	Banks, Sean	LB	6-2	215	So.	Youngstown, OH	18	McFadden, Leroy	TB	6-3	235	So.	Eden Prairie, MN
42	Bernadel, Julner	FB	5-11	230	Jr.	Stamford, CT	49	McWilliams, Brian	FB	5-10	210	Jr.	Detroit, MI
12	Bitonti, Matt	QB	5-10	177	So.	Sterling Heights, MI	59	Miller, Raheem	DE	6-1	245	So.	Rochester, NY
89	Bonito, Matt	DE	6-7	265	Fr.	Lima, OH	39	Morris, Aric	SS	5-11	205	So.	Oak Park, MI
24	Brown, Richard	CB	6-0	197	So.	W. Hempstead, NY	65	Mudge, Dave	T	6-7	295	Sr.	Whitby, ON
16	Burke, Bill	QB	6-5	210	So.	Warren, OH	52	Neal, Mike	C	6-1	258	So.	Okemos, MI
69	Call, Brandon	DT	6-0	250	So.	Saline, MI	11	Ornstein, Gus	QB	6-5	218	Jr.	Tenafly, NJ
3	Campbell, Amp	CB	6-0	185	Jr.	Sarasota, FL	32	Patrick, Antwain	TB	5-11	195	Sr.	Wilmington, NC
6	Clemons, Lloyd	TB	5-11	210	Jr.	Detroit, MI	67	Patton, Damon	DT	6-0	243	Jr.	Southfield, MI
22	Collins, Archer	FS	5-11	195	So.	Detroit, MI	8	Payne, Dwayne	WR	6-4	203	So.	Washington, DC
51	Corbier, Jesse	LB	6-1	217	So.	Miami, FL	84	Rainko, Brad	TE	6-3	226	So.	Farmington Hills, MI
20	Deller, Derrick	QB	6-3	200	So.	Saline, MI	88	Rance, Kyle	TE	6-6	240	So.	Troy, MI
1	Edinger, Paul	P	5-10	183	So.	Lakeland, FL	41	Reece, Travis	FB	6-3	245	Sr.	Detroit, MI
43	Ernsberger, Scott	SS	6-3	220	Jr.	Portage, MI	44	Reese, Ike	LB	6-3	222	Sr.	Cincinnati, OH
17	Eyde, Sam	QB	6-3	205	So.	Lansing, MI	7	Richardson, Lavaile	WR	6-2	180	So.	Warren, OH
98	Freeman, Josh	DE	6-6	285	Sr.	Adrian, MI	14	Schachner, Jason	WR	6-0	160	Jr.	Piqua, OH
14	Gardner, Chris	K	5-9	195	Sr.	Plantation, FL	9	Schultz, Todd	QB	6-4	212	Sr.	Morris, IL
37	Garland, Tyrone	LB	5-11	225	Sr.	Cliffwood, NJ	60	Schutz, Mike	G	6-6	310	So.	Etobicoke, ON
45	Gould, Garett	DT	6-2	238	Jr.	Troy, MI	86	Scott, Gari	WR	6-1	185	So.	Lake Park, FL
92	Govens, Pete	DT	6-4	285	So.	Concordville, PA	73	Shaw, Scott	G	6-4	297	Sr.	Sterling Heights, MI
50	Grant, Brian	C	6-2	258	Fr.	E. Grand Rapids, MI	91	Smith, Robaire	DE	6-5	250	So.	Flint, MI
28	Hackenbracht, Dan	SS	6-2	190	Sr.	Massillon, OH	57	Smokevitch, Mike	LB	5-11	206	Jr.	Birmingham, MI
56	Hawkins, Dwayne	LB	6-3	230	Jr.	Pompano Beach, FL	61	Stephan, Brian	G	6-6	288	Fr.	Xenia, OH
54	Henning, T.J.	LB	6-1	217	Jr.	Laingsburg, MI	79	Strayhorn, Jason	C	6-2	288	Jr.	Indianapolis, IN
82	Higgins, Jeremy	WR	5-11	192	So.	Grant, MI	70	Sucura, Dave	T	6-5	283	Fr.	Sterling Heights, MI
10	Hill, Ray	CB	6-0	185	Sr.	Detroit, MI	66	Thomas, Desmond	DT	6-2	285	Jr.	Beltsville, MD
4	Hiram, Damien	WR	6-5	210	Sr.	Jackson, MI	21	Truitt, Ralph	QB	6-2	220	Jr.	Ypsilanti, MI
80	Hughes, Brandon	WR	5-10	167	So.	Chicago, IL	99	Underwood, Dimitrius	DE	6-7	252	Jr.	Fayetteville, NC
33	Irvin, Sedrick	TB	6-0	217	So.	Miami, FL	72	Walker, Don	G	6-2	330	Sr.	Detroit, MI
64	Jensen, Casey	G	6-7	285	So.	Eagan, MN	48	Walker, Jonathon	TB	5-8	210	So.	Muskegon, MI
26	Judson, Charles	FS	5-11	186	Fr.	Detroit, MI	13	Weaver, Franklin	CB	5-9	173	Sr.	Fairfax, VA
40	Kammer, Wes	LB	6-2	235	Fr.	Marine City, MI	12	Weston, Ron	CB	5-11	185	Jr.	Grand Rapids, MI
6	Kanu, Sorie	FS	5-11	195	Jr.	Alexandria, VA	10	Wood, Greg	QB	5-8	165	So.	Grand Rapids, MI
83	Keur, Josh	TE	6-5	270	Sr.	Muskegon, MI	31	Wright, Shawn	FS	6-2	215	So.	Shaker Heights, OH
21	Klein, Jason	WR	6-4	195	Fr.	Sterling Heights, MI							
53	Ledyard, Courtney	LB	6-3	245	Jr.	Shaker Heights, OH							
20	Long, Octavis	WR	5-10	178	Sr.	Lansing, MI							

1997 Signees

NAME **POS.** **HT.** **WT.** **HOMETOWN**
Baker, Chris **TE** **6-4** **250** **Saline, MI**
 All-state; had 40 receptions for 989 yds. and 11 TDs.

Bryan, Duron **DB-WR** **6-0** **180** **Lexington Pk., MD**
National Recruiting Advisor Atlantic Region's No. 9 defensive back; all-conference; accounted for nearly 600 yds. total offense as a senior.

Cornford, Willie **DT** **6-4** **280** **St. Petersburg, FL**
USA Today honorable mention; *Parade* honorable mention; *SuperPrep* All-Dixie Team; All-Tampa Bay; recorded 160 tackles, including 22 sack, in 1996.

Guess, Lorenzo **QB** **6-3** **190** **Wayne, MI**
 Midwest's No. 4 prospect in *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report*; *SuperPrep* All-Midwest Team; *The Detroit News* All-State Dream Team; threw for nearly 1,000 yds. and 12 TDs in 1996.

Haygood, Herb **TB** **6-0** **180** **Sarasota, FL**
Midwest Football Recruiting Magazine All-American; Southeast's No. 3 running back by the *National Recruiting Advisor*; *SuperPrep* All-Dixie Team; rushed for 1,770 yds. (7.2 avg.) and scored 26 TDs in 1996.

Hill, Renaldo **DB** **5-11** **170** **Detroit, MI**
Detroit Free Press All-State; rated the state's No. 3 prospect by *The Detroit News*; had 85 tackles and four interceptions as a senior.

Kropf, Matt **LB** **6-4** **220** **Traverse City, MI**
USA Today All-American; *The Detroit News* Dream Team; recorded 156 tackles and seven sacks in '96.

Mauck, Matt **QB** **6-3** **220** **Jasper, IN**
SuperPrep All-Midwest Team; completed 59 of 117 passes for 940 yds. and 12 TDs as a senior.

McCoy, Ivory **TE-LB** **6-4** **225** **Chicago, IL**
Chicago Sun-Times second-team all-state; recorded 123 tackles and 15 sacks as a senior.

Mesman, Joel **LB** **6-3** **245** **Grand Rapids, MI**
SuperPrep All-Midwest Team; *Athlon Sports* Blue Chip lists; all-state; made 82 tackles in 1996.

Meyers, Nick **DE** **6-4** **255** **Springfield, OH**
 Honorable mention all-state; All-Southwest Ohio Region; had 71 tackles and five sacks in '96.

Murphy, Shawn **OL** **6-5** **285** **Cincinnati, OH**
Tom Lemming's All-Midwest Team; all-region; first-team all-conference.

Smith, Demont **WR-DB** **5-11** **175** **Grand Rapids, MI**
 All-state; caught 26 passes for 565 yds. and recorded 116 tackles in 1996.

Smith, Josh **OL** **6-5** **275** **O'Fallon, IL**
SuperPrep All-American; *USA Today* honorable mention All-American.

Steinmetz, Artie **DL** **6-5** **275** **Edgewood, KY**
SuperPrep All-Dixie Team; totaled 100-plus tackles in '96, including six sacks.

Suggs, DeMario **WR-DB** **6-0** **185** **Toledo, OH**
 All-city, all-area; second-team all-state selection; rushed for 1,327 yds. and scored 15 TDs last season.

Turner, T.J. **LB** **6-4** **240** **Hillsboro, OH**
SuperPrep All-American; recorded 103 tackles, including seven sacks, in just seven games.

Wensel, Marty **DT** **6-4** **275** **Slatington, PA**
USA Today honorable mention All-American; registered 40 tackles, including two sacks, in 1996.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

WR 20 Octavis Long (Sr., 2); 7 Lavaile Richardson (So., 0)
LT 76 Flozell Adams (Sr., 3); 70 Dave Sucura (Fr., 0)
LG 73 Scott Shaw (Sr., 2); 60 Mike Schutz (So., 0)
C 79 Jason Strayhorn (Jr., 0); 50 Brian Grant (Fr., 0)
RG 64 Casey Jensen (So., 1); 71 Shaun Mason (Fr., 0)
RT 65 Dave Mudge (Sr., 2); 75 Shane Adkins (So., 0)
TE 83 Josh Keur (Sr., 3); 88 Kyle Rance (So., 1)
QB 9 Todd Schultz (Sr., 2); 16 Bill Burke (So., 1)
FB 45 Garrett Gould (Jr., 2); 41 Travis Reece (Sr., 3)
TB 33 Sedrick Irvin (So., 1); 18 Leroy McFadden (So., 0)
WR 86 Gari Scott (So., 1); 4 Damien Hiram (Sr., 2)
K 14 Chris Gardner (Sr., 3)

DEFENSE (8)

DE 99 Dimitrius Underwood (Jr., 2); 59 Raheem Miller (So., 0)
DT 66 Desmond Thomas (Jr., 1); 69 Brandon Call (So., 0)
DT 92 Pete Govens (So., 1); 67 Damon Patton (Jr., 0)
DE 91 Robaire Smith (So., 0); 89 Matt Bonito (Fr., 0)
LB 53 Courtney Ledyard (Jr., 2); 25 Mike Austin (So., 1)
LB 37 Tyrone Garland (Sr., 3); 56 Dwayne Hawkins (Jr., 2)
LB 44 Ike Reese (Sr., 3); 38 Sean Banks (So., 0)
CB 3 Amp Campbell (Jr., 1); 24 Richard Brown (So., 0)
CB 10 Ray Hill (Sr., 2); 29 Lemar Marshall (Jr., 2)
SS 39 Aric Morris (So., 1); 28 Dan Hackenbracht (Sr., 2)
FS 6 Sorie Kanu (Jr., 2); 31 Shawn Wright (So., 1)
P 1 Paul Edinger (So., 1)

(#) indicates number of returning starters
 BOLD indicates returning starters
 Number after class indicates letters won

Top Returning Leaders

Passing: Todd Schultz, 130-209-1693-10, 7 TDs
Rushing: Sedrick Irvin, 237 car., 1067 yds., 16 TDs
Receiving: Sedrick Irvin, 40 rec., 337 yds., 2 TDs
Scoring: Sedrick Irvin, 18 TDs, 108 points
Punting: Paul Edinger, 55 punts, 41.8 avg.
Kicking: Chris Gardner, 17-22 FGs, 35-39 XP
Tackles: Ike Reese, 115, 75 solo
Sacks: Dimitrius Underwood, 5
Interceptions: Sorie Kanu, 3 for 24 yards

1997 Schedule

Sept. 6 Western Michigan
 Sept. 13 Memphis
 Sept. 20 @ Notre Dame
 Oct. 4 Minnesota
 Oct. 11 @ Indiana
 Oct. 18 @ Northwestern
 Oct. 25 Michigan
 Nov. 1 Ohio State
 Nov. 8 @ Purdue
 Nov. 22 @ Illinois
 Nov. 29 Penn State

Rising Star

Sophomore Robaire Smith, a 6-5, 248-pound defensive end, could practice but was academically ineligible last season. "Our offense couldn't block him," says Saban. Robaire is the brother of Minnesota Vikings defensive end Fernando Smith, and MSU basketball player Antonio Smith.

Minnesota fans are hoping Glen Mason can do what no other coach has done for the Gophers the last three decades: return them to the top echelon of the Big Ten.

Mason, who comes to Minnesota after nine years at Kansas where he produced four winning seasons and took teams to two bowl games, says he does not look at his new job as a rebuilding project. Revamping is more like it.

"What you have a tendency to do is compare this program to places you've been before," says Mason, head coach at Kent State in 1986 and 1987. "This program is in a lot better shape than the others I've inherited."



Tutu Atwell

The Gophers return 18 starters, including eight on offense, from last season's team that ended up 4-7 overall and 1-7 in the Big Ten.

quarterbacks

Mason claims all positions are up for grabs, but clearly, the quarterback job belongs to senior Cory Sauter, who has started every game the last two seasons.

The offense has been tailored to Sauter's strong arm and quick release, and in a live-by-the-pass, die-by-the-pass offense, he has been impressively accurate, having completed 58 percent of his attempts. Sauter has thrown for 5,258 yards and 32 touchdowns. He was first in the Big Ten in total offense last season, averaging 224.1 yards per game.

While Sauter spends his final campaign attempting to shatter every passing record at the school, Minnesota will be searching for the future.

The Gophers have three young quarterbacks — two sophomores and a redshirt freshman — who will challenge for the backup position. The likely choice is sophomore Billy Cockerham,

who has size and a strong arm to go with great speed and quickness. In his final high school season, Cockerham threw for 1,500 yards and rushed for nine touchdowns, so he could add a new dimension.

running backs

While the Minnesota passing offense has led the Big Ten three of the last five seasons, the ground game has ranked no higher than ninth.

Mason's goal is a balanced offense, and for Minnesota that means an emphasis on the running game. That's good news for talented sophomores Thomas Hamner and Byron Evans. Hamner started last season, gaining 883 yards on 195 carries and scoring three touchdowns. He also is a fine receiver out of the backfield.

Minnesota has four freshman backs, including Antoine Henderson, who finished fourth in Mr. Florida football voting.

Mason intends to revive Minnesota's tradition of fullbacks, but he admits it will take a few recruiting classes to bolster the running attack.

receivers

In the Big Ten, there hasn't been a better place for receivers than Minnesota. Seniors Tutu Atwell and Ryan Thelwell led the league last season with a combined 10.5 catches and 170.5 yards a game.

Thelwell has size, excellent hands and the ability to break the big play. He is the program's all-time leader in receptions (136) and receiving yards (2,232), and he set a single-season mark last year with 1,051 yards. He was 18th nationally, averaging 95.6 yards per game receiving.

Atwell is a big-play threat who set the single-season school record with 62 receptions and finished third in the conference with an average 5.6 receptions per game.

offensive linemen

Three starters return, but at least one may shift positions. Senior Gregg James, who started every game at center, likely will start at right guard. Luke Herkenhoff, a senior, opened at left tackle in the first seven games before suffering a season-ending fractured foot.

Tim Socha, the third returning starter, can play anywhere on the line. When James was knocked out of two games with an ankle sprain, Socha, a junior tackle, played center.

Seniors Erik Lindgren and Luke Glime and sophomore Pat Hau are the leading candidates for the remaining assignments.

defensive linemen

Mason is giving the Gophers' defense a facelift and the pinches and tucks begin here.



Cory Sauter



Par Williams

Championship Drought



Murray Warmath, the coach who took Minnesota from last place in the Big Ten in 1959 to a national title in 1960, guided the Gophers to their last great year in the Big Ten in 1967. The Gophers went 8-2 overall, 6-1 Big Ten that season, to finish in a three-way tie for the conference championship. They have not won or tied for a league title since.

Smith, a junior, distinguished himself in the Illinois game, when he recorded a career-high 16 tackles. Smith tied for third on the team with 76 tackles even though he missed the first two games with an ankle injury.

Dalton, a junior college transfer a year ago, played in eight games and had 12 tackles. He should get competition from sophomore Luke Braaten, who started the first two Big Ten games before suffering a fractured right leg.

defensive backs

Senior safety Crawford Jordan has never missed a game and doesn't like to miss a hit, either. He tied with Smith as the third-leading tackler with 76. Jordan offers versatility, considering he has started at strong safety, free safety and outside linebacker.

Sophomore safety Tyrone Carter made an impact, finishing second in tackles with 83. In the upset of Syracuse, his first start, Carter returned two fumbles for touchdowns.

22

The number of yards Cory Sauter needs to become Minnesota's all-time leading passer. Sauter has thrown for 5,258 yards and trails only Marquel Fleetwood (1989-92).

Junior Craig Scruggs and senior Terrance Blayne handle the corners. Blayne was a starter two years ago but missed the '96 season because of a knee injury.

specialists

This is one area Mason did not have to shake up. Junior Adam Bailey, a Lou Groza Award semifinalist last season, is back. He had a career-long, 49-yard field goal against Michigan, was fifth in the Big Ten and 17th nationally with an average of 1.3 field goals per game. Bailey also handles kickoffs and had 10 touchbacks a season ago.

As a freshman, Steve Kempf averaged just more than 38 yards a punt and should improve his distance this season. He averaged 44 yards at Mt. Carmel High in Chicago.

"We are changing completely," Mason says. "It will be a complete departure from what they've been running."

Minnesota goes from the multiple 3-4 scheme it employed last season to the more aggressive 4-3. Certainly, the Gophers have nowhere to go but up after ranking last in the Big Ten in total defense, allowing 409 yards and 33.8 points per game.

Senior Raymond Baylor started the final nine games of '96 at tackle and is the only returning starter. Junior Antoine Richard should play at the other tackle. Mark Cross, a senior, has played in 33 consecutive games

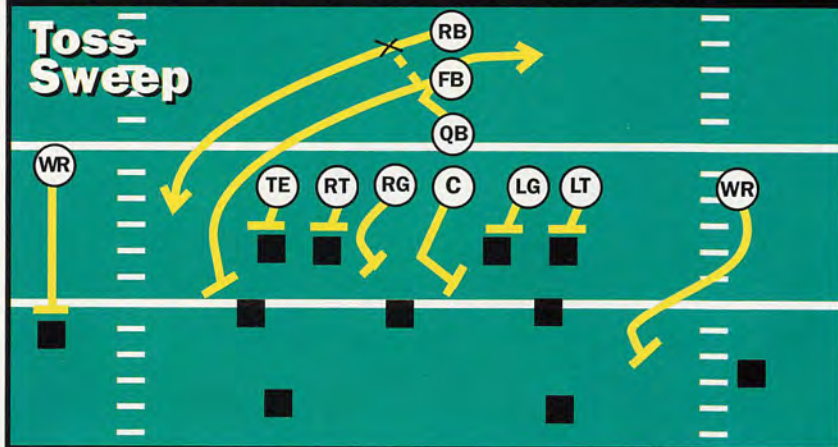
at linebacker, end and nose guard, and should start at end. Lamanzer Williams has started at end and outside linebacker the last three seasons.

linebackers

Three starters, Donny Dalton, Par Williams and Rufus Smith, give the Gophers experience at their strongest positions. Williams, a junior inside linebacker, was the team's defensive MVP after registering a team-high 98 tackles. He has excellent speed even though he had reconstructive surgery to his left knee his freshman year.

Golden Gophers Critical Play

Mason will try to bolster Minnesota's running attack with using the Toss Sweep play, a short-yardage play he used frequently at Kansas.



1997 Minnesota Roster

1996 Record: 4-7
Big Ten Record: 1-7

Head Coach:
Glen Mason

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN	NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
90	Aitkin, Tony	D	6-3	241	Sr.	Apple Valley, MN	85	Johnson, Mike	WLB	6-1	197	So.	Slayton, MN
78	Albrecht, Jon	OL	6-5	313	Jr.	Springfield, IL	23	Jordan, Crawford	FS	5-10	188	Sr.	Fort Worth, TX
86	Anderson, Tom	FL	5-8	168	So.	Eden Prairie, MN	39	Kaiser, Ray	DLB	6-2	220	Sr.	St. Paul Park, MN
33	Artic, Rahim	WLB	6-1	196	So.	Milwaukee, WI	26	Kemph, Steve	P	6-1	190	So.	Chicago, IL
1	Atwell, Tutu	SB	5-9	170	Sr.	Miami, FL	53	Kneen, Scott	LS	6-1	224	So.	Anoka, MN
19	Bailey, Adam	K	5-10	189	Jr.	Burnsville, MN	27	Leverson, Erik	SB	6-0	173	So.	Miami, FL
74	Baldauf, Jeff	T	6-7	297	Sr.	Sun Prairie, WI	68	Lindgren, Erik	T	6-5	286	Sr.	Minneapolis, MN
24	Barnes, Kahlen	SB	6-1	202	Jr.	Brooklyn Park, MN	33	McManus, Erin	K	5-9	187	Jr.	Dresser, WI
91	Baylor, Raymond	DT	6-1	276	Sr.	Houston, TX	95	Michals, Jon	DE	6-4	251	So.	Oak Creek, WI
47	Bean, Jim	RB	5-9	202	Jr.	Burnsville, MN	47	Moberg, Eric	CB	5-10	168	Jr.	Hibbing, MN
25	Blayne, Terrance	CB	6-0	191	Sr.	Missouri City, TX	22	Moeller, Chad	RB	5-11	206	Jr.	Sturgeon Bay, WI
48	Borboa, Kayne	FL	5-10	184	So.	Lairmore, ND	14	Moore, Dan	MLB	6-3	192	Sr.	Cold Spring, MN
52	Braaten, Luke	SLB	6-4	230	So.	Litchfield, MN	43	Moore, Mari	CB	6-1	170	Jr.	San Antonio, TX
22	Carter, Tyrone	SS	5-9	178	So.	Pompano Bch., FL	44	Myers III, Lyman	SB	5-7	164	So.	Hopkins, MN
81	Chmielewski, Cor	SE	6-2	184	Jr.	Mounds View, MN	9	Nelson, Greg	FL	6-1	205	Sr.	Dallas, TX
5	Cockerham, Billy	QB	6-1	208	So.	Clayton, CA	57	Pearson, Nate	DLB	6-3	206	So.	Hutchinson, MN
41	Cross, Mark	DE	6-3	257	Sr.	Milwaukee, WI	25	Prigge, Brad	RB	5-10	196	So.	Zumbrota, MN
50	Dalton, Donny	WLB	6-1	231	Sr.	Fontana, CA	18	Rackley, Derek	LS	6-5	230	So.	Apple Valley, MN
83	Dettman, Spencer	FL	5-11	163	So.	Green Bay, WI	94	Rawlings, Josh	DT	6-5	290	So.	Fort Gratiot, MI
8	Dimmy, Keith	SS	6-1	167	Jr.	Columbus, OH	58	Richard, Antoine	DT	6-3	280	Jr.	Houston, TX
87	Duerr, Troy	TE	6-4	266	Jr.	Buffalo, MN	35	Rindels, Ryan	P	5-11	173	So.	Coon Rapids, MN
69	Elizondo, James	T	6-4	272	Sr.	Round Rock, TX	20	Rodgers, Fred	CB	5-9	168	So.	Hamilton, OH
97	Elliott, Jerome	DT	6-4	278	So.	Lakeview Ter., CA	92	Russ, Dyron	DT	6-1	277	So.	Milwaukee, WI
36	Evans, Byron	RB	5-9	210	So.	Texas City, TX	17	Sauter, Cory	QB	6-5	220	Sr.	Hutchinson, MN
76	Gail, Jim	G	6-6	285	Jr.	Avon, MN	48	Scanlan, David	K	5-10	187	Jr.	El Segundo, CA
64	Glime, Luke	C	6-4	271	Sr.	Bemidji, MN	2	Scruggs, Craig	CB	5-9	175	Jr.	Dallas, TX
24	Goring, Daryl	SS	5-9	189	Fr.	W. Palm Beach, FL	46	Smith, Rufus	DLB	6-2	231	Jr.	Miami Springs, FL
28	Grate, Tim	WLB	5-11	206	Jr.	Miami Springs, FL	63	Socha, Tim	T	6-6	299	Jr.	Green Bay, WI
29	Hagman, Jason	CB	6-1	181	Jr.	Austin, MN	4	Thelwell, Ryan	SE	6-2	188	Sr.	London, ON
12	Hammer, Thomas	RB	6-0	177	So.	Hamilton, OH	75	Turek, Troy	T	6-6	290	Fr.	Sun Prairie, WI
16	Harden, Mike	FS	6-2	208	Fr.	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	31	Venturine, Ryan	DLB	6-2	223	Jr.	Westlake Village, CA
6	Harvey, Derrick	SE	5-10	190	Sr.	Akron, OH	79	Von Behren, Threon	G	6-5	273	So.	South St. Paul, MN
84	Hass, Alex	TE	6-5	253	So.	St. Peter, MN	82	Wasurick, Bo	TE	6-3	223	Jr.	DePere, WI
77	Hau, Pat	G	6-6	298	So.	Edina, MN	55	Watson, Dave	DE	6-4	241	Jr.	Bloomington, MN
65	Herkenhoff, Luke	T	6-5	285	Sr.	Albany, MN	34	Webb III, Verdis	RB	5-8	195	So.	Maplewood, MN
73	Hoffarth, Kris	G	6-5	296	So.	St. Paul, MN	45	White, Deon	WLB	6-1	239	Jr.	Sugar Land, TX
45	Hoffman, Sean	SLB	6-3	236	Fr.	Fargo, ND	56	Williams, Lamanzer	DE	6-4	262	Sr.	Ypsilanti, MI
88	Hubbard, Ryan	TE	6-3	224	Sr.	Jensen Beach, FL	37	Williams, Parc	SLB	6-3	231	Jr.	Zumbrota, MN
3	Hutton, Lee	FL	5-9	162	Jr.	Dickinson, TX	93	Wimberger, Jude	WLB	6-1	226	So.	Fond du Lac, WI
21	Isaacs, Derek	FS	5-11	188	So.	Apple Valley, MN	13	Wynn III, Sperton	QB	6-4	220	So.	Houston, TX
21	Jackson, Javon	RB	5-11	188	Sr.	Newport News, VA	30	Wyrick, Jimmy	CB	5-9	170	So.	De Sota, TX
62	James, Gregg	G	6-4	286	Sr.	Clinton Tship., MI	61	Zander, Jason	C	6-5	276	So.	Sun Prairie, WI

1997 Signees

NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	HOMETOWN
Akinwale, Akeem	OL	6-3	255	Coon Rapids, MN

All-state; all-metro; all-conference.

Anderle, Matt	DL-TE	6-6	260	Roseville, MN
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All-state; all-metro; all-conference; Twin Cities Suburban Conference American Division Offensive Player of the Year.

Burns, Derek	OL	6-6	275	Eden Prairie, MN
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SuperPrep All-America selection; PrepStar ranked him #7 in the Big Ten region.

Carter, Grant	WR	6-0	165	Solon, OH
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All-district; all-county; led Northeast Ohio in kickoff return average.

Dehnicke, Drew	LB	6-3	225	Coon Rapids, MN
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Registered 190 tackles as a senior; Twin Cities Suburban Conference National Division Defensive Player of the Year; school record holder win over 300 tackles during his career.

Fitzpatrick, Renato	RB	6-0	193	St. Louis, MO
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School's all-time career leader with 3,805 yds. rushing; Sentinel Player of the Year.

Graham, Trevis	DB	5-10	175	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
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First-team all-state; had five interceptions as a defensive back and seven TDs at running back.

Hall, Justin	LB	6-3	210	Bloomington, MN
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Collected a team-leading 121 tackles as a senior; two-time all-conference selection.

Henderson, Antoine	RB	5-7	160	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
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Rushed for 1,900 yds. and scored 26 TDs; finished fourth in the "Mr. Florida Football" balloting; SuperPrep first-team all-region.

Jimmy Henry	DB	6-1	178	Detroit, MI
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All-state; all-city; all-metro; 12th-ranked player in the state of Michigan by BLUECHIP Illustrated.

Hyppolite, Tony	RB	5-9	180	Miami, FL
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SuperPrep All-America selection; All-Dade County team; finished prep career with 2,181 yds. rushing on 408 carries and 38 TDs.

Jones, Elvin	WR	6-4	195	Southfield, MI
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Had 65 recs. for 1,424 yds. and 14 TDs as a senior; Detroit Free Press All-State; Detroit News "Dream Team."

LaRue, Rob	TE	6-4	218	Wayzata, MN
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All-state; all-metro; caught 66 passes for 900 yds. and 8 TDs.

Martin, Gus	DB	5-10	175	Miami, FL
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Key performer on the school's '96 state championship team; captured the 6A state 110 meter hurdles title as a junior.

Mezera, Ben	LB	6-4	225	Waupaca, WI
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All-conference; second-team all-state; named the team's Defensive Player of the Year.

Middlebrooks, Willie	DB	6-2	185	Homestead, FL
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All-state; registered 97 tackles, three ints. and recovered four fumbles; All-Dade County.

Mullen, Michael	FB	5-11	190	Flint, MI
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Roth, Ryan	OL	6-3	300	Kansas City, MO
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Two-time all-conference; possesses good quickness for his size.

Thorman, Ryan	OL	6-5	275	Eagan, MN
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All-state; all-metro; all-conference; honorable mention All-America.

Thunder, Ramsey	LB	6-2	210	Milwaukee, WI
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Honorable mention all-state.

Vevea, Zach	TE	6-6	235	Elk River, MN
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USA Today Honorable Mention All-America.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

SE	4	Ryan Thelwell (Sr., 3); 6 Derrick Harvey (Sr., 0)
LT	65	Luke Herkenhoff (Sr., 2); 69 James Elizondo (Sr., 1)
LG	77	Pat Hau (So., 0); 73 Kris Hoffarth (So., 1)
C	64	Luke Glime (Sr., 1); 78 Jon Albrecht (Jr., 2)
RG	62	Gregg James (Sr., 2); 74 Jeff Baldauf (Sr., 1)
RT	63	Tim Socha (Jr., 2); 68 Erik Lindgren (Sr., 0)
TE	87	Troy Duerr (Jr., 2); 88 Ryan Hubbard (Sr., 2);
QB	17	Cory Sauter (Sr., 2); 5 Billy Cockerham (So., 0)
SB	1	Tutu Atwell (Sr., 3); 27 Luke Leverson (So., 1)
RB	12	Thomas Hamner (So., 1); 36 Byron Evans (So., 1)
FL	9	Greg Nelson (Sr., 3); 3 Lee Hutton (Jr., 1)
K	19	Adam Bailey (Jr., 1)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	41	Mark Cross (Sr., 3); 55 Dave Watson (Jr., 1)
DT	91	Raymond Baylor (Sr., 2); 97 Jerome Elliott (Jr., 0)
DT	58	Antoine Richard (Jr., 2) 94 Josh Rawlings (So., 0)
DE	56	Lamanzer Williams (Sr., 3) 95 Jon Michals (So., 1)
LB	50	Donny Dalton (Sr., 1); 52 Luke Braaten (So., 1)
LB	37	Parc Williams (Jr., 2); 28 Tim Grate (Jr., 1)
LB	46	Rufus Smith (Jr., 2); 45 Deon White (Jr., 1)
CB	2	Craig Scruggs (Jr., 2); 43 Mari Moore (Jr., 2)
CB	25	Terrance Blayne (Sr., 3); 20 Fred Rodgers (So., 1)
SS	22	Tyrone Carter (So., 1); 8 Keith Dimmy (Jr., 0)
FS	23	Crawford Jordan (Sr., 3); 16 Mike Harden (Fr., 0)
P	26	Steve Kemph (So., 1)

(#) indicates number of returning starters
BOLD indicates returning starters
Number after class indicates letters won

Top Returning Leaders

Passing: Cory Sauter, 200-352-2578-11, 14 TDs
Rushing: Thomas Hamner, 195 car., 883 yds., 3 TDs
Receiving: Tutu Atwell, 62 rec., 822 yds., 6 TDs
Scoring: Adam Bailey, 16 FGs, 14 XP, 58 points
Punting: Steve Kemph, 47 punts, 38.2 avg.
Kicking: Adam Bailey, 14-20 FGs, 14-20 XP
Tackles: Parc Williams, 98, 61 solo
Sacks: Jon Michals, 2
Interceptions: Rufus Smith, 2 for 18 yards

1997 Schedule

Aug. 30	@ Hawaii
Sept. 13	Iowa State
Sept. 20	@ Memphis
Sept. 27	Houston
Oct. 4	@ Michigan St.
Oct. 11	Purdue
Oct. 18	@ Penn State
Oct. 25	Wisconsin
Nov. 1	@ Michigan
Nov. 8	Ohio State
Nov. 15	Indiana
Nov. 22	@ Iowa

Rising Star

Sophomore running back Thomas Hamner revived the Minnesota running game last season. Hamner finished 10th in the Big Ten with an 80.3-yards-per-game average. His 883 yards ranks second ever by a Golden Gopher freshman. Only Darrell Thompson, ten years earlier, did better.

Gary Barnett looks at this season as yet another chapter for what has become the storybook team of the late '90s.

He has lost three assistants and 13 starters, including many of the big-name players who helped turn Northwestern from perennial cellar-dweller to two-time Big Ten champion and national contender.

"Without question, it's the best group of players we've had leave the program at one time," Barnett says matter-of-factly.

Among the departed, all of whom were key members of the 1995 Rose Bowl team, are two-time Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year Pat



Adrian Autry

Fitzgerald, quarterback Steve Schnur and running back Darnell Autry.

"We've got some young kids," Barnett says. "We're going to look a little different, but you just turn the page and go on."

quarterbacks

Last season, the Wildcats relied on offense, and that started with Schnur's arm and leadership. Replacing him will be difficult, but the competition during spring drills was fierce between fifth-year seniors Tim Hughes and Chris Hamdorf.

Hughes likely will be the starter because he has had more experience in the system, considering he started the first eight games of the 1994 season. He played in five games last year but always in a mop-up role. Neither Hughes nor Hamdorf has completed 50 percent of his passes in college.

running backs

Darnell Autry is gone, which means it is senior Adrian Autry's (no relation) time to shine. Adrian Autry had 112 carries — less than half of

Darnell Autry's attempts — for 421 yards and four touchdowns last season. Adrian also started one game while Darnell was out with an injury.

Barnett has high hopes for redshirt freshman Ian Miller, who was slowed before spring drills by a hamstring pull. In his senior year of high school, the 5-11, 210-pound Miller rushed for 1,694 yards and 24 touchdowns.

Junior Tyrone Gooch, who had limited playing time last year, also will get a chance.

Northwestern does not have tremendous depth at fullback, and Barnett says that may lead him to use more of a two tight-end look. Junior Levelle Brown should be the starting fullback.

receivers

This will be the Wildcats' biggest strength, but D'Wayne Bates, who decided to return for his senior season, is probably wondering if he'll have a quarterback with the accuracy of Steve Schnur throwing to him this year.

Bates has explosive speed and was a first-team All-Big Ten selection in 1996 after leading the conference with an average 99.91 receiving yards and 6.2 receptions per game.

Senior Toussaint Waterman returns as the other wideout, and fellow senior Brian Musso, who got valuable playing time last season, is still available.

Sophomore Jay Tant has moved back to tight end, the position for which he had been recruited, and has the inside track for the starting job. His biggest challenge will come from senior Joel Stuart, who was a backup last season.

offensive linemen

An offense doesn't gain 4,590 total yards, as Northwestern did in '96, without help up front. Three starters are gone, and Barnett is using some creativity to fill the holes.

He doesn't have a worry at center, however, since senior Nathan Strikwerda returns. Strikwerda started all 11 games.

Senior Paul Janus started all but the opener last season at left tackle, but he will be moved to right tackle. Senior Bryan LaBelle, originally a guard, moves to left tackle.

Junior Brian Hemmerle will now start at left guard. Senior Chris Leeder is considered the most athletic of the linemen despite his 6-4, 301-pound girth, and he should hold down right guard.

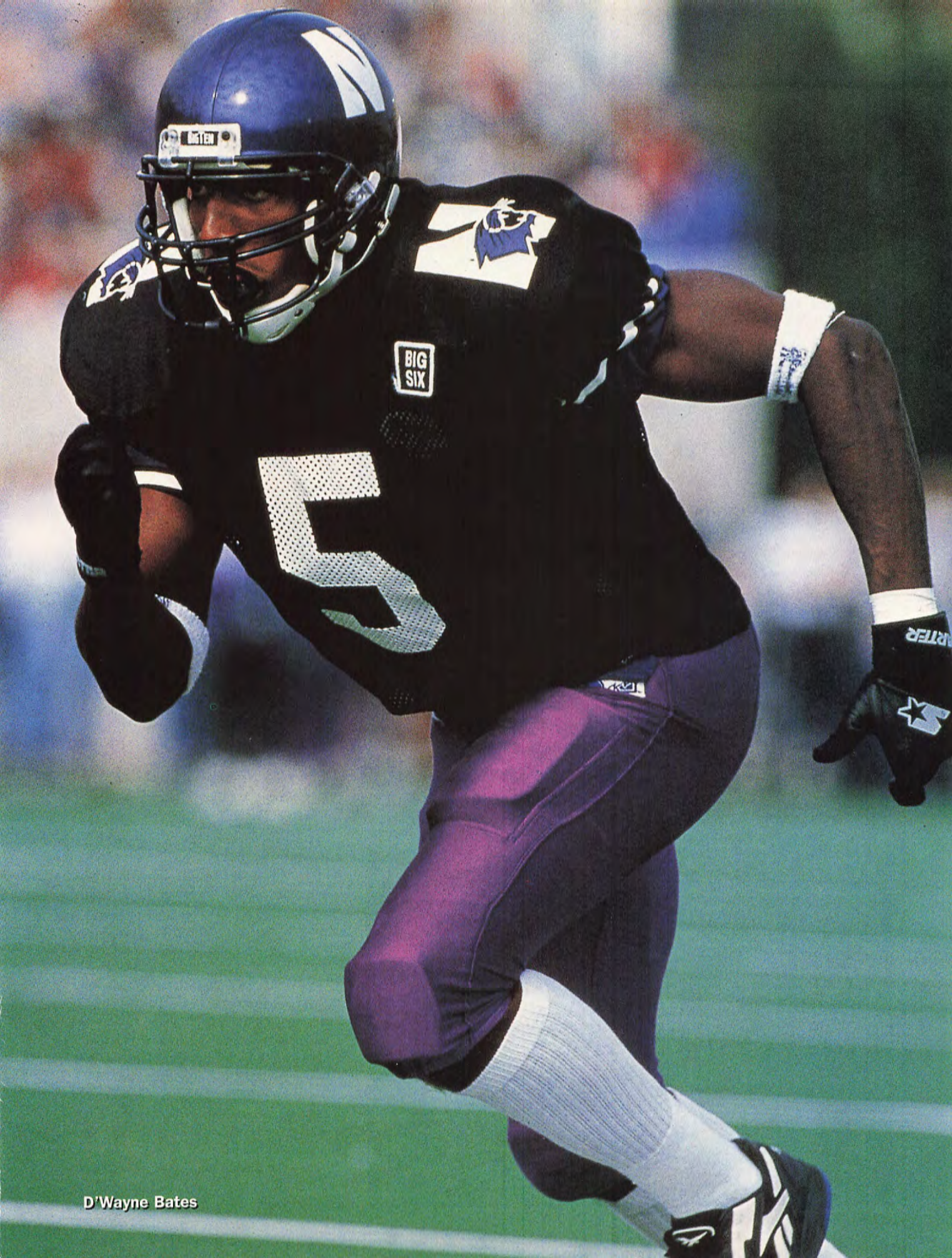
defensive linemen

Northwestern returns experience at the ends in seniors Casey Dailey and Keith Lozowski, and the interior should be solid with the return of several veteran performers.

Lozowski, who had nine tackles for loss and

Jonathan Daniel/Allsport

Jonathan Daniel/Allsport



D'Wayne Bates



Brian Musso

four sacks, started every game at left end, and Dailey started most of last season at right end. Dailey led the Wildcats with eight sacks, and he had 11 tackles for loss.

Fifth-year senior KeJaun DuBose inherits the starting job at left tackle with senior Bobby Russ, a part-time starter a year ago, taking over full-time at right tackle. Junior Jeff Dyra impressed the coaches during the spring and will push both starters for playing time.

linebackers

Middle linebacker Pat Fitzgerald, the

player Barnett frequently referred to as the 11th coach, is gone. Now what are the Wildcats supposed to do? Senior Barry Gardner is the only returning starter, and he is expected to move from outside linebacker to Fitzgerald's vacated spot. Gardner was third on the team with 106 tackles, including 68 solo, and he led the team with four fumble recoveries.

Juniors Kevin Buck and Josh Kolar and sophomore Anwawn Jones should challenge for the other positions. And don't be surprised to see highly-rated recruit Tom O'Brien of Chicago make a major contri-

The Year of The Roses

The 1995 season put Northwestern on the map, on Wheaties boxes and on the front of every sports section. The Wildcats won the Big Ten title with an 8-0 record and went 10-1 overall during the regular season, including victories at Notre Dame and Michigan. The Cinderella season culminated with the school's first trip to the Rose Bowl since 1949, albeit a 41-32 loss to USC.



bution. This is the youngest area of a relatively experienced defense.

defensive backs

The secondary was the weak link for the Wildcats last season, but they return four Citrus Bowl starters. Senior Josh Barnes and junior Gerald Conoway work the corners. But competition will continue into the fall because of redshirt freshman Harold Blackmon. Barnett believes Blackmon could make an immediate impact.

Seniors Mike Nelson and Eric Collier return at the safeties. Collier will be a four-year starter, and was the team's second-leading tackler with 107. He'll get pressure from Scott Musso and Kyle Sanders.

25

The number of years since Dyche Stadium last featured natural grass.

The stadium, which is undergoing renovations, actually had artificial turf installed three years ago but has now made the switch.

specialists

The Wildcats lose second-team All-Big Ten punter Paul Burton, who averaged 43.8 yards and had one of 71. The job now belongs to redshirt freshman Eron Kosmowski, who at 6-6, 250 pounds has a powerful leg. If Kosmowski does not progress as quickly as expected, kicker Brian Gowins may be used.

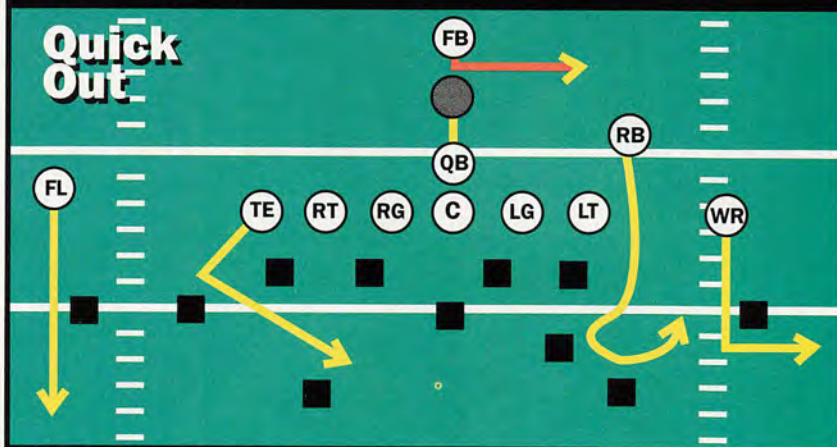
"If I don't sleep much this season, it's because of that position," Barnett says regarding his punter.

Gowins, however, returns to handle field goals and extra points. Gowins, a senior, tied for 10th nationally with an average 1.45 field goals per game and proved to be tough in the clutch. He kicked game-winning field goals against Michigan and Purdue.

Musso was the top punt-returner with an 11.2-yard average. Autry will probably return kickoffs.

Wildcats Critical Play

The quarterback takes a three-step drop and throws to the split receiver, who in this play would be D'Wayne Bates.



1997 Northwestern Roster

1996 Record:
Big Ten Record:

9-3
7-1

Head Coach:
Gary Barnett

NO. NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
32 Autry, Adrian	RB	5-10	194	Sr.	Long Grove, IL
17 Barnes, Josh	DB	5-11	180	Sr.	Aurora, CO
5 Bates, D'Wayne	WR	6-2	211	Sr.	Aiken, SC
6 Blackmon, Harold	DB	6-0	202	So.	Chicago, IL
34 Brown, Levelle	FB	5-11	218	Jr.	Naperville, IL
12 Broxterman, Mark	QB	5-11	206	Jr.	Homewood, IL
9 Buck, Kevin	LB	6-1	223	Jr.	Miami, FL
80 Burden, John	WR	6-3	212	Sr.	Orlando, FL
7 Burrell, Aaron	WR	6-1	202	Jr.	Cedar Rapids, IA
20 Bynum, Casey	FS	5-9	175	So.	Boulder, CO
68 Carroll, Neil	OL	6-5	311	So.	Chicago, IL
33 Collier, Eric	SS	6-1	213	Sr.	Dixon, IL
92 Collins, Javier	DE	6-7	286	So.	St. Paul, MN
11 Conoway, Gerald	DB	6-0	177	Jr.	Detroit, MI
36 Dailey, Casey	DE	6-3	246	Sr.	La Verne, CA
2 Davis, Mike	TE	6-3	254	Jr.	San Diego, CA
76 Dodge, Tony	OL	6-4	299	Jr.	McHenry, IL
88 DuBose, KeJuan	DT	6-2	285	Sr.	Jennings, MO
65 Dyra, Jeff	DT	6-4	267	Jr.	Chicago, IL
15 Elsen, Corbett	QB	6-5	219	So.	Grand Rapids, MI
47 Emmerich, Conrad	LB	6-5	225	So.	Foley, MN
35 Fordenwalt, Matt	FB	6-3	236	Jr.	Seville, OH
60 Friedrich, Ryan	OL	6-3	287	Jr.	Stevens Point, WI
55 Gardner, Barry	LB	6-1	237	Sr.	Harvey, IL
57 Garner, Ty	C	6-3	289	So.	Fond du Lac, WI
50 Baston, Stafford	LB	6-3	239	Jr.	Oklaoma City, OK
16 Gooch, Tyrone	RB	5-10	185	Jr.	Bolingbrook, IL
13 Gowins, Brian	K	5-10	168	Sr.	Birmingham, AL
4 Hamdorf, Chris	QB	6-2	206	Sr.	Iowa City, IA
71 Harnedy, Jack	OL	6-7	290	So.	Chicago, IL
46 Hartl, Matt	FB	6-2	235	Jr.	Denver, CO
70 Hemmerle, Brian	OL	6-7	305	Jr.	Louisville, KY
78 Hodge, Darryl	DT	6-3	294	So.	Silver Spring, MD
8 Hughes, Tim	QB	6-2	222	Sr.	Gridley, CA
74 Janus, Paul	OL	6-6	280	Sr.	Edgerton, WI
10 Jones, Anwawn	LB	6-4	212	So.	Van Nuys, CA
39 Jones, Shannon	K	5-9	177	Sr.	Grand Rapids, MI
40 Kolar, Josh	LB	6-4	232	Jr.	Willmette, IL
88 Kosmowski, Eron	P	6-6	243	So.	Hartland, MI
79 LaBelle, Bryan	OL	6-7	295	Sr.	Kent, WA

NO. NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
91 Lapadula, Marc	DT	6-1	256	Jr.	Allentown, PA
37 Leary, Faraji	DB	6-1	204	Sr.	Buffalo Grove, IL
69 Leeder, Chris	OL	6-4	293	Sr.	Rockford, MI
43 Letts, Preston	LB	6-2	211	So.	Hinsdale, IL
10 Long, Tim	K	6-1	199	So.	Altoona, PA
44 Lozowski, Keith	DE	6-3	252	Sr.	Palatine, IL
2 MacLeod, Doug	K	5-11	195	Sr.	Wheaton, IL
58 Matiyow, Jason	DT	6-3	268	Jr.	Council Bluffs, IA
6 McArthur, John	QB	6-2	200	So.	Kirkwood, MO
38 McCaffery, James	FB	6-3	225	Jr.	Hoffman Estates, IL
3 Miller, Ian	RB	5-11	214	Sol.	Spring Valley, CA
85 Miller, Phil	WR	6-5	201	So.	Buffalo, MN
95 Missouri, Dwayne	DE	6-5	220	So.	San Antonio, TX
24 Morton, Rashad	FS	5-11	205	So.	Macedonia, OH
22 Musso, Brian	WR	6-1	190	Sr.	Hinsdale, IL
23 Musso, Scott	SS	5-11	207	Jr.	Hinsdale, IL
26 Nelson, Jr., Mike	FS	6-2	211	Sr.	Plano, TX
53 Perry, Mark	OL	6-3	275	So.	Cecilia, KY
59 Ross, Jason	LB	6-2	223	Sr.	Dayton, OH
19 Rubin, Brian	DB	5-9	176	Jr.	Detroit, MI
98 Russ, Bobby	DT	6-3	274	Sr.	Calumet City, IL
31 Sanders, Kyle	SS	5-11	195	Jr.	Jackson, MI
48 Sanford, Jonathon	FB	5-10	207	So.	Laurel, MD
90 Schmidt, Thor	DE	6-3	248	Sr.	Santa Barbara, CA
56 Sidwell, Zach	DE	6-3	230	Jr.	Kearney, NE
1 Silberman, Wynn	WR	6-2	180	Jr.	Saratoga, CA
89 Smith, Doug	WR	6-1	164	So.	Pacific, MO
62 Steele, Hasani	WR	5-10	179	Jr.	Glen Ellyn, IL
63 Strikwerda, Nathan	C	6-4	295	Sr.	Madison, WI
87 Stuart, Joel	TE	6-6	227	Sr.	Elyria, OH
25 Swenson, Jeff	WR	6-1	193	Sr.	Spencer, IA
84 Tant, Jay	TE	6-4	231	So.	Kettering, OH
97 Taylor, Gladston	DE	6-5	245	Jr.	Missouri City, TX
81 Thompson, Derrick	WR	5-9	152	So.	Calumet City, IL
28 Tomes, Shawn	DB	5-11	190	Jr.	San Antonio, TX
73 Tomkiel, Mark	OL	6-6	320	Sr.	Chicago, IL
66 Tourville, Matt	OL	6-1	235	So.	Woodbury, MN
18 Waterman, Toussaint	WR	6-2	212	Sr.	Pontiac, MI
21 Wilkerson, Fred	DB	6-2	200	Sr.	Detroit, MI

1997 Signees

NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	HOMETOWN
Anderson, Damien RB	RB	5-11	195	Wilmington, IL
Brockmeier, Leon OL	OL	6-8	270	Tallahassee, FL
Brown, Marvin DB	DB	5-11	190	Pueblo, CO
Clelland, Lance OL	OL	6-6	285	Reisterstown, MD
Collins, Joseph OL	OL	6-8	290	Darien, CT
Cummings-John, Segun CB	CB	6-0	190	Mesa, AZ
Fay, Adam OL	OL	6-5	290	Bettendorf, IA
Harris, Napoleon TE-LB	TE-LB	6-4	215	Dixmoor, IL
Hoffman, Gavin QB	QB	6-6	220	Wayzata, MN
Johnson, Rob QB-WR	QB-WR	6-3	200	Canton, MI
Johnson, Teddy WR	WR	6-0	180	Elgin, IL
Jones, Mycal FS	FS	6-0	190	Jeannette, PA
Koszyk, Jason DL	DL	6-6	250	Darien, IL
Kreinbrink, Nick QB	QB	6-3	205	Leipsic, OH
Marshall, Brian RB	RB	6-0	200	Southfield, MI
O'Brien, Tom LB	LB	6-4	235	La Grange Park, IL
Perry, Mark OL	OL	6-3	275	Cecilia, KY
Sherry, Michael TE	TE	6-5	210	Griffith, IN
Simon, Salem DE	DE	6-4	245	Cleveland, OH
Souza, Michael OL	OL	6-7	290	Kaneohe, HI

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

WR 5 D'Wayne Bates (Sr., 2); 85 Phil Miller (So., 0)
LT 74 Paul Janus (Sr., 3); 71 Jack Harnedy (So., 0)
LG 69 Chris Leeder (Sr., 1); 53 Mark Perry (So., 0)
C 63 Nathan Strikwerda (Sr., 2); 57 Ty Garner (So., 0)
RG 70 Brian Hemmerle (Jr., 0); 68 Neil Carroll (So., 0)
RT 79 Bryan LaBelle (Sr., 2); 73 Mark Tomkiel (Sr., 0)
TE 87 Joel Stuart (Sr., 1); 2 Mike Davis (Jr., 1)
QB 8 Tim Hughes (Sr., 1); 4 Chris Hamdorf (Sr., 1)
FB 34 Levelle Brown (Jr., 2); 35 Matt Fordenwalt (Jr., 0)
RB 32 Adrian Autry (Sr., 2); 16 Tyrone Gooch (Jr., 0)
WR 18 Toussaint Waterman (Sr., 3); 22 Brian Musso (Sr., 3)
K 13 Brian Gowins (Sr., 2); 10 Tim Long (So., 0)

DEFENSE (6)

DE 44 Keith Lozowski (Sr., 3); 95 Dwayne Missouri (So., 0)
DT 88 KeJaun Dubose (Sr., 2); 65 Jeff Dyra (Jr., 0)
DT 98 Bobby Russ (Sr., 2); 91 Marc Lapadula (Jr., 0)
DE 36 Casey Dailey (Sr., 3); Thor Schmidt (Sr., 1)
LB 55 Barry Gardner (Sr., 2); 9 Kevin Buck (Jr., 2)
LB 40 Josh Kolar (Jr., 1); 47 Conrad Emmerich (So., 0)
LB 10 Anwawn Jones (So., 1); 59 Jason Ross (Sr., 0)
CB 11 Gerald Conoway (Jr., 1); 21 Fred Wilkerson (Sr., 2)
CB 17 Josh Barnes (Sr., 2); 6 Harold Blackmon (So., 0)
SS 33 Eric Collier (Sr., 3); 31 Kyle Sanders (Jr., 1)
FS 26 Mike Nelson (Sr., 2); 24 Rashad Morton (So., 0)
P 88 Eron Kosmowski (So., 0)

Top Returning Leaders

Passing: Tim Hughes, 6-10-34-1, 0 TDs
Rushing: Adrian Autry, 112 car., 454 yds., 4 TDs
Receiving: D'Wayne Bates, 75 rec., 1196 yds., 12 TDs
Scoring: Brian Gowins, 16 FGs, 34 XP, 82 points
Punting: none
Kicking: none
Tackles: Eric Collier, 107, 55 solo
Sacks: Casey Dailey, 8
Interceptions: Josh Barnes, 3 for 0 yards

1997 Schedule

Sept. 6 @ Wake Forest
 Sept. 13 Duke
 Sept. 20 Rice
 Sept. 27 @ Purdue
 Oct. 4 Wisconsin
 Oct. 11 @ Michigan
 Oct. 18 Michigan St.
 Oct. 25 @ Ohio State
 Nov. 1 Penn State
 Nov. 8 @ Illinois
 Nov. 15 Iowa

Rising Star

Redshirt freshman Harold Blackmon, a **BLUECHIP Illustrated** high school All-America quarterback as a senior at Chicago's Leo High School, should make an impact this season at cornerback. He certainly has the speed for it — he was a member of the 4x100 championship relay team in Illinois.

(#) indicates number of returning starters
 BOLD indicates returning starters
 Number after class indicates letters won

One of the first things Ohio State coach John Cooper said after his Buckeyes scored with 19 seconds left to snatch a 20-17 victory over Arizona State in the Rose Bowl was that he proved a team could win using two quarterbacks. Well, Stanley Jackson and Joe Germaine, the two who combined for 2,301 yards passing in 1996, are back.

The Buckeyes have gone 22-3 the last two seasons and are coming off a Rose Bowl victory and a No. 2 national ranking.

The Buckeyes could hardly be in better shape at quarterback, but they have suffered losses — 14 starters in all. Among those who have



Pepe Pearson

departed are eight from a defense that held opponents to averages of 10.4 points and 243.3 yards per game, while its offense averaged 39.5 points and 451.1 yards.

"We probably lost more quality players than in any senior class in my nine years at Ohio State," says Cooper. "But that's typical of us every year."

quarterbacks

Jackson, a junior, started all but the Michigan game. He is an elusive, big-play performer, whose playing time was limited, however, in the final three games. Against Michigan and in the Rose Bowl, Jackson threw for just 68 yards combined.

Germaine, a sophomore, is a classic dropback passer. In Ohio State's only loss, against rival Michigan in the regular-season finale, he threw for 148 yards. And in his Most Valuable Player performance in the Rose Bowl, he completed nine of 17 passes for 131 yards. Germaine led the Big Ten in passing efficiency with a rating of 150.08 but did not throw enough to qualify nationally.

running backs

He is not as big as his predecessor, 1995 Heisman Trophy winner Eddie George, but 5-10, 206-pound senior Pepe Pearson made a name for himself last season rushing for 1,373 yards, eighth-best single-season effort in school history. Pearson has tremendous breakaway speed and the field vision to run effectively both inside and outside.

Sophomore Michael Wiley gives the backfield versatility. He averaged 32.3 yards per catch and 9.0 yards per carry. Wiley is so talented that the Buckeyes' defensive coaches have expressed interest in using him at cornerback.

Sophomore Matt Keller may not be the biggest fullback (6-0, 220), but he is a tough blocker and is especially adept at taking a short pass and turning it into a big gain.

receivers

There is no doubt that David Boston, a sophomore, will be one of the nation's top receivers. He started the last seven games and was second on the team with 29 catches for 430 yards and five touchdowns, plus two more in the Rose Bowl. Boston is noted for his great first step and the ability to make defenders miss.

Junior Dee Miller takes over at flanker. Miller is a strong, physical blocker who runs precision routes.

offensive linemen

Ohio State had to restock three-fifths of the line, which has a particularly large hole (literally) to fill with the departure of All-American Orlando Pace, Lombardi Award and Outland Trophy winner. Replacing Pace at left tackle is junior Brooks Burris, a backup last year who also can play guard. Redshirt freshman Jefferson Kelley, who at 6-6, 305 is almost as big as Pace, could make a move into the starting lineup.

Senior Eric Gohlstein began his college career at guard, then moved to right tackle, where he started the last two years. Now, Gohlstein shifts to center, probably his natural position. Also returning is Rob Murphy, a freshman All-American at left guard.

Sophomore Ben Gilbert and redshirt freshman Tyson Walter take over at right guard and tackle respectively. Gilbert received valuable playing time in eight games.

defensive linemen

Opponents should be delighted that defensive ends Mike Vrabel and Matt Finkes, and Luke Fickell, a four-year starter at nose guard, are finally gone.



Andy Katzenmoyer



David Boston

Jim Bell, a fifth-year senior, has played at end and was a backup at tackle last season, but now he gets a shot at nose guard. He has size and strength, and excellent footwork as well.

John Day, a senior, and junior Jeff Wilson should take over for Vrabel and Finkes. Day played in seven games and is the best pass rusher. Wilson played behind Vrabel and has the edge in experience, but sophomore Tony Eisenhard, a basketball player with a 36-inch vertical leap, could move into a starting role.

Senior defensive tackle Winfield Garnett

gives the Buckeyes a strong physical presence inside. He had 25 tackles as a starter, including five for loss.

linebackers

Watch sophomore Andy Katzenmoyer perform this season, because he may be in the NFL this time next year. He started every game at middle linebacker his freshman campaign, the only first-year Ohio State linebacker ever to do so.

Katzenmoyer, 1996 Big Ten Freshman of the Year, is a devastating tackler. He covers the field well and has the proverbial sixth

Buckeyes On Top



Highlighted by a sophomore class that included quarterback Rex Kern and defensive back Jack Tatum, the 1968 Buckeyes were 10-0 and unanimous national champions. Woody Hayes' team averaged 32 points and 440 yards, and allowed opponents only 15 points and 292 yards. Ohio State clinched the national title with a 27-16 victory over No. 2 Southern Cal in the Rose Bowl.

sense for the ball — he totaled 77 tackles, 18 for losses, nine sacks and three interceptions.

Senior Kevin Johnson should start at one outside linebacker spot. At the other, it's a toss-up between Jerry Rudzinski, a junior, and redshirt freshman redshirt Na'il Diggs. Rudzinski played in every game. Diggs has never played a down, but Cooper believes he could make an impact.

defensive backs

Shawn Springs, the Big Ten's Defensive Player of the Year, left as a junior for the draft, and two other starting spots also will be occupied by new faces.

1-7-1

John Cooper's record against Michigan. The loss to the Wolverines last season cost Ohio State a shot at the national title, and the 1995 defeat cost the Buckeyes a Rose Bowl trip.

Free safety Damon Moore, a junior, is the lone returning starter in the secondary. He is a punishing hitter who was credited with 77 tackles and led the team with five interceptions. Junior Ché Bryant moved from free safety to strong safety before last season and as a backup recorded 17 tackles.

Junior Antoine Winfield, who has played extensively at both corners, likes to inflict big hits and has a knack for forcing fumbles. Gary Berry, considered powerful and swift, should start at the other corner as a sophomore.

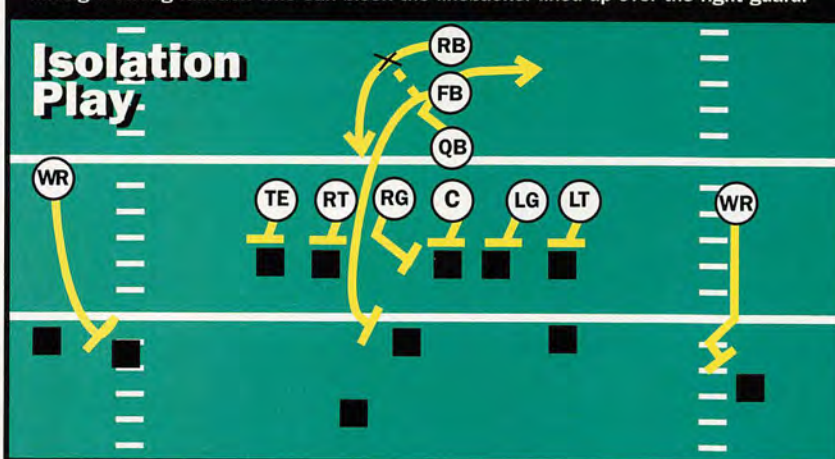
specialists

This is expected to be one of the Buckeyes' strengths with junior punter Brent Bartholomew and redshirt freshman placekicker Dan Stultz. Bartholomew averaged 41.9 yards and will benefit from the return of sophomore snapper Kevin Houser.

Stultz missed last season after being diagnosed with Graves' disease. His weight is back to 185 pounds and he has regained his strength. Junior Andy Stamp will handle kickoffs.

Buckeyes Critical Play

The Buckeyes use the short-yardage isolation play more than any other. The key is having a strong fullback who can block the linebacker lined up over the right guard.



1997 Ohio State Roster

1996 Record: 11-1
Big Ten Record: 7-1

Head Coach:
John Cooper

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN	NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
94	Bailey, Rodney	DL	6-5	260	Fr.	Lakewood, OH	59	Kelso, Darrell	LB	5-11	246	Jr.	Columbus, OH
41	Bartholomew, Brent	PT	6-2	205	Jr.	Apopka, FL	17	King, Percy	DB	6-4	200	So.	Columbus, OH
71	Bates, John	OL	6-4	279	Fr.	Cherry Hill, NJ	44	Kirk, Chris	LB	6-3	235	So.	Westerville, OH
95	Bell, Jim	DT	6-5	255	Sr.	Youngstown, OH	62	Kozar, Jason	G	6-0	270	Jr.	Amherst, OH
1	Berry, Gary	CB	6-0	205	So.	Worthington, OH	48	LaVrar, Matt	LB	6-3	220	So.	Maumee, OH
9	Boston, David	SE	6-3	205	So.	Humble, TX	61	Loadman, Kevin	LS	6-1	245	So.	Columbus, OH
92	Breed, Paul	DL	6-7	305	Jr.	San Francisco, CA	59	Long, Paris	DL	6-5	305	Fr.	Columbus, OH
73	Brown, Joe	DL	6-7	250	Fr.	Tucson, AZ	85	Lumpkin, John	TE	6-8	270	Jr.	Dayton, OH
18	Bryant, Ché	SS	6-1	200	Jr.	Canton, OH	69	Massey, Jim	OL	6-5	260	Fr.	Brecksville, OH
28	Burden, Mike	SS	6-1	205	So.	Palatine, IL	20	McClellion, Central	CB	5-11	180	Jr.	Delray Beach, FL
67	Burris, Brooks	T	6-6	295	Jr.	Logan, OH	15	Miller, Dee	SE	6-1	190	Jr.	Springfield, OH
98	Burton, Kelly	TE	6-4	250	So.	Columbus, OH	3	Mitchell, David	DB	6-1	185	Fr.	Westerville, OH
39	Cooper, Joe	DB	6-2	210	Fr.	Columbus, OH	33	Montgomery, Joe	TB	5-11	225	Jr.	Robbins, IL
97	Day, John	DE	6-3	245	Sr.	Independence, OH	13	Moore, Damon	FS	5-11	200	Jr.	Fostoria, OH
32	Diggs, Na'il	LB	6-4	225	Fr.	Los Angeles, CA	63	Murphy, Kurt	C	6-4	275	So.	Columbus, OH
96	Eisenhard, Tony	DE	6-7	265	So.	Tiffin, OH	56	Murphy, Rob	G	6-5	285	So.	Cincinnati, OH
78	Elford, Drew	G	6-4	277	So.	Garfield, NJ	29	Pearson, Pepe	TB	5-10	206	Sr.	Euclid, OH
24	Fulton, Scott	FB	6-0	225	Fr.	Hyattsville, MD	19	Plummer, Ahmed	CB	6-1	190	So.	Wyoming, OH
82	Furrey, Mike	SE	6-0	170	So.	Hilliard, OH	83	Provitt, Vanness	WR	6-3	190	Fr.	Warren, OH
16	Garcia, Mark	QB	6-4	215	Jr.	Modesta, CA	86	Pulsfort, Mike	K	5-11	170	So.	Dublin, OH
68	Garnett, Winfield	DT	6-6	305	Sr.	Riverdale, IL	6	Redmond, Jimmy	LB	6-0	165	So.	Lee's Summit, MO
7	Germaine, Joe	QB	6-2	196	Jr.	Mesa, AZ	35	Rudzinski, Jerry	FL	6-1	220	Jr.	Centerville, OH
64	Gilbert, Ben	G	6-5	295	So.	Lancaster, OH	21	Sanders, Charlie	FB	5-9	215	So.	Rochester Hills, MI
50	Gohlstin, Eric	C	6-4	295	Sr.	Cleveland, OH	95	Simindinger, Scott	FL	6-3	185	Sr.	Spencerville, OH
37	Goings, Nick	TB	6-0	205	Fr.	Dublin, OH	34	Simpson, Greg	DB	6-1	2-5	Fr.	Columbus, OH
42	Griffin, Kevin	SE	5-10	183	Jr.	Redmond, WA	74	Smith, Eric	T	6-6	310	So.	Columbus, OH
65	Gurr, Mike	G	6-7	250	Fr.	Hamilton, OH	68	Spiess, Nick	T	6-5	265	So.	Columbus, OH
93	Homa, Randy	NG	6-2	250	So.	Pottsville, PA	17	Stamp, Andy	PK	6-1	180	Jr.	West Chester, OH
55	Hopkins, Tam	OL	6-5	315	Fr.	Winter Park, FL	47	Stultz, Dan	K	6-0	185	Fr.	Orrville, OH
87	Houser, Kevin	TE	6-4	250	So.	Westlake, OH	79	Waldon, Larry	T	6-6	340	Sr.	Detroit, MI
10	Hoying, Tommy	TE	6-4	221	Sr.	St. Henry, OH	41	Walker, Keith	DB	5-11	180	Sr.	Martins Ferry, OH
44	Huitger, Collins	FB	6-2	211	Jr.	Columbus, OH	77	Walter, Tyson	T	6-5	290	Fr.	Chagrin Falls, OH
25	Jackson, Jermon	TB	5-11	205	Sr.	Ironton, OH	81	Warnke, Darik	WR	6-1	185	Fr.	Aurora, OH
8	Jackson, Stanley	QB	6-1	203	Sr.	Paterson, NJ	90	Wayne, Clinton	DL	6-4	240	Fr.	Brampton, ON
60	Johnson, Brent	DE	6-4	250	Fr.	Kingston, ON	26	Webb, Ashanti	DB	5-11	180	Jr.	Tampa, FL
52	Johnson, Kevin	LB	6-2	220	Sr.	Athens, GA	27	Westbrooks, Jerry	FB	6-2	220	Fr.	Boca Raton, FL
98	Johnson, Kevin	DE	6-7	240	Fr.	Washington, DC	5	Wiley, Michael	TB	6-0	180	So.	Spring Valley, CA
19	Jones, Demetrious	WR	6-1	181	So.	Youngstown, OH	46	Willis, Marc	LB	6-4	235	Sr.	Phoenix, AZ
45	Katzenmoyer, Andy	LB	6-4	250	So.	Westerville, OH	91	Wilson, Jeff	DE	6-3	250	Jr.	Deerfield Bch., FL
23	Keller, Matt	FB	6-0	220	So.	Mason, OH	11	Winfield, Antoine	DB	5-9	178	Jr.	Akron, OH
76	Kelley, Jefferson	T	6-6	305	Fr.	Cincinnati, OH	84	Wisniewski, Steve	TE	6-5	230	So.	Timberlake, OH

1997 Signees

NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	HOMETOWN
Bailey, Rodney	DL	6-5	260	Lakewood, OH
Breed, Paul	DL	6-7	305	San Francisco, CA
Bullard, Courtland	LB	6-3	215	Miami, FL
Cheatwood, Timothy	DB	6-4	215	Cleveland, OH
Collins, Mike	DL	6-4	270	Newark, OH
Combs, Derek	RB	6-2	180	Grove City, OH
Cooper, Joe	DB	6-2	210	Columbus, OH
Fleming, Henry	OL	6-7	295	Fork Union, VA
Fulton, Scott	FB	6-0	225	Hyattsville, MD
Germany, Reggie	WR	6-1	195	Hazelwood, MO
Hopkins, Tam	OL	6-5	315	Winter Park, FL
Mitchell, David	DB	6-1	185	Westerville, OH
Moherman, Austin	QB	6-5	200	Mission Viejo, CA
Ott, Jason	LB	6-4	235	Cincinnati, OH
Penny, Sean	RB	6-2	215	Youngstown, OH
Priestley, David	QB	6-4	200	Cypress, CA
Pulfer, Ben	DL	6-6	270	Sidney, OH
Queen, Heath	DL	6-5	270	Lodi, OH
Sanders, Darnell	TE	6-6	235	Warrensv. H., OH
Simpson, Greg	DB	6-1	205	Columbus, OH
Webb, Ashanti	DB	5-11	180	Tampa, FL

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (5)

SE 9 David Boston (So., 1); 83 Vanessa Provitt (Fr., 0)
LT 67 Brooks Burris (Jr., 2); 75 Jefferson Kelley (Fr., 0)
LG 56 Rob Murphy (So., 1); 65 Mike Gurr (Fr., 0)
C 50 Eric Gohlstin (Sr., 2); 63 Kurt Murphy (So., 1)
RG 64 Ben Gilbert (So., 1); 78 Drew Elford (So., 1)
RT 77 Tyson Walter (Fr., 0); 74 Eric Smith (So., 0)
TE 85 John Lumpkin (Jr., 1); 10 Tommy Hoying (Sr., 1)
QB 8 Stanley Jackson (Sr., 2); 7 Joe Germaine (Jr., 1)
FB 23 Matt Keller (So., 1); 21 Charlie Sanders (So., 0)
TB 29 Pepe Pearson (Sr., 3); 5 Michael Wiley (So., 1)
FL 15 Dee Miller (Jr., 2); 42 Kevin Griffin (Jr., 2)
K 47 Dan Stultz (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (3)

DE 97 John Day (Sr., 1); 90 Clinton Wayne (Fr., 0)
DT 68 Winfield Garnett (Sr., 2); 73 Joe Brown (Fr., 0)
NG 95 Jim Bell (Sr., 1); 93 Randy Homa (So., 0)
DE 91 Jeff Wilson (Jr., 2); 96 Tony Eisenhard (So., 0)
LB 52 Kevin Johnson (Sr., 1); 48 Matt LaVrar (So., 1)
LB 45 Andy Katzenmoyer (So., 1); 44 Chris Kirk (So., 1)
LB 35 Jerry Rudzinski (Jr., 2); 32 Na'il Diggs (Fr., 0)
CB 11 Antoine Winfield (Jr., 2); 19 Ahmed Plummer (So., 1)
CB 1 Gary Berry (So., 1); 20 Central McClellion (Jr., 2)
SS 18 Ché Bryant (Jr., 2); 28 Mike Burden (So., 1)
FS 13 Damon Moore (Jr., 2); 17 Percy King (So., 0)
P 41 Brent Bartholomew (Jr., 2)

(#) indicates number of returning starters
BOLD indicates returning starters
 Number after class indicates letters won

Top Returning Leaders

Passing: Stanley Jackson, 87-165-1298-5, 12 TDs
Rushing: Pepe Pearson, 299 car., 1484 yds., 17 TDs
Receiving: David Boston, 33 rec., 450 yds., 7 TDs
Scoring: Pepe Pearson, 17 TDs, 102 points
Punting: Brent Bartholomew, 58 punts, 42.3 avg.
Kicking: none
Tackles: Damon Moore, 89 tackles, 61 solo
Sacks: Andy Katzenmoyer, 12
Interceptions: Damon Moore, 5 for 44 yards, 1 TD

1997 Schedule

Aug. 28 Wyoming
 Sept. 13 Bowling Green
 Sept. 20 Arizona
 Sept. 27 @ Missouri
 Oct. 4 Iowa
 Oct. 11 @ Penn State
 Oct. 18 Indiana
 Oct. 25 Northwestern
 Nov. 1 @ Michigan St.
 Nov. 8 @ Minnesota
 Nov. 15 Illinois
 Nov. 22 @ Michigan

Rising Star

David Boston's star began to rise during a productive freshman year. At 6-3, he has NFL size that he has put to good use in college. Of his seven touchdowns, two came in the Rose Bowl. He tied a school record with 13 receptions in the Indiana game.



Randy Bell

Wolverines Stand Between Buckeyes and Perfection

By DICK FENLON
COLUMBUS JOURNAL-DISPATCH

Ohio State was leading Michigan 9-0 two plays into the third quarter last season when Wolverine quarterback Brian Griese fired a pass to split end Tai Streets. All season long, opposing quarterbacks had thrown away from Buckeye cornerback Shawn Springs. Now, Michigan was going directly at him. Setting up to cover, Springs slipped and fell. Streets caught the ball and raced 69 yards untouched for a touchdown.

Springs went on to be the third player picked in the 1997 NFL draft. Michigan went on to beat Ohio State 13-9, spoiling the Buckeyes' hopes for an undisputed Big Ten championship, a perfect season and a national title.

The game, you see, is only half of the tradition of Ohio State-Michigan. The other half is the result. In his final matchup with Michigan as Ohio State coach in 1987, Earle Bruce won 23-20. Winning is the trick. Bruce's successor, John Cooper, has managed this only once in nine tries.

Since '87, the results aren't the only things that are repetitious. So are the quotes.

"That's one of the most embarrassing games I've ever been associated with," Cooper said after Michigan beat previously unbeaten Ohio State 28-0 in 1993.

"I don't think I've ever been as disappointed in my life as I am standing here today," he said after the Wolverines handed the 11-0 Buckeyes a 31-23 defeat in 1995.

"Obviously, I'm tremendously disappointed for our football team, for our fans, for our senior football players," he said after last year's loss ended another bid for a perfect season.

That loss left Ohio State with a 2-13-2 record in the final two games of the season, including bowls, in Cooper's nine years. The Buckeyes were in dire danger of another loss in the Rose Bowl game against Arizona State before quarterback Joe Germaine directed an 11-play, 65-yard touchdown drive in the final 1:40 for a 20-17 win at Pasadena.

Suddenly, Cooper was on top of the world again, being hefted off the field on the backs of his players. Imagine how different it might have been had his team lost that day, factoring in the loss to Michigan and the number of Buckeyes picked in this spring's NFL draft.

Orlando Pace, Ohio State's all-world offensive tackle, and Springs relinquished their senior seasons for the draft. Pace was the first player chosen, Springs the third.

Senior safety Rob Kelly was the 33rd pick. Cornerback Ty Howard, defensive ends Matt Finkes and Mike Vrabel and running back Nicky Sualua also were taken over the course of seven rounds. Center Rod Payne and guard Damon Denson were the only two Wolverines drafted.

In the 1990s, Ohio State's 12 first round selections (nine giving up at least a season of eligibility) not only lead Michigan's eight, they lead the nation. It may not do much for the football graduation rate, but it's a magical recruiting tool. "When you lose good players, it's our job to bring good players in," Cooper says.



Disappointment is a common theme in the aftermath of John Cooper's battles with Michigan.

He has done that. Still, there's Michigan.

In 1994, after five losses and a tie under Cooper, the Buckeyes finally beat the Wolverines 22-6. Since then, though they've gone in with great expectations, they have lost twice more, making it a lopsided 1-7-1 in Michigan's favor in the Cooper era.

However, the response can depend upon who's doing the counting. "A tie is one of our greatest wins ever," OSU president Gordon Gee puffed after the rivals fought to a 13-13 standoff in 1992.

The record book has it a little differently, and the reasons for Ohio State's lack of success are widely debated in Columbus. Let's try some:

Ohio State doesn't get fired up enough. That doesn't seem too plausible, although they went to Michigan in 1993 and 1995 looking like they anticipated a stroll in the park and had their heads handed to them both times.

Ohio State gets up too much. That's more like it. The day before Ohio State's tradi-

tional loss to Michigan last season, 20,000 fans turned out for another hoary, old Buckeye rite. Tradition has it that on this day the senior Buckeye players, for old time's sake, take one last public whack at a tackling dummy in Ohio Stadium. Their teammates gather around and watch. Sentiment abounds. Cameras click. Memories are tucked away.

And, always, there's a little speech by somebody to stoke the fires for the big game the next day. Last November, Earle Bruce, who now expounds about the Buckeyes on radio, did the honors. The traditional senior ritual and Earle Bruce. It's like striking a match in a coal mine filled with methane gas: kaaaa-BOOOM!

And Bruce made the most of the opportunity. He preached, he goaded, he inspired, mesmerized, detonated and, finally, invoked those six little words, the words that everyone was waiting for, "kick the hell out of Michigan."

Oops.

"It's really surprising how much emphasis they put on the game here," Michigan center Rod Payne said after the game. "It was like a campaign or an election or something. It's hard for a person to be focused when you have that much bull.... going on around what you have to do."

Ohio State doesn't talk enough. When Cooper first arrived at Ohio State, the last week of November was just any other game week; now, it's an off-limits, closed locker-room, shhhh-the-enemy's-listening, Michigan week.

Before last November's game, Springs virtually disappeared from sight.

"Shawn's a trash talker," Pace said. "This week you have to be careful."

Ohio State talks too much. "Michigan is nothing," wide receiver Terry Glenn said on a tape widely replayed on Detroit stations before the game at Ann Arbor in 1995.

Ouch.

"The way I see it, we at Michigan do less talking and more football playing," Michigan safety Marcus Ray, who is from Columbus, said after last year's game.

Well, you get the picture. In Columbus, there's the Coop Can't Inspire theory, the Coop Just Doesn't Get It theory and the Coop's From Tennessee theory, among others.

But as Springs said after the latest defeat, "You can't blame the man. He does the coaching, but we go out and play."

He gave it a little more thought.

"Maybe I shouldn't have slipped," he said.

No, probably not. ■

State College, Pa., has always been a hard place to reach — still is — but Joe Paterno apparently has found the secret to longevity in Happy Valley.

As he prepares to begin his 32nd season as Penn State's head coach — and 48th year on the football staff — Paterno is coming off a season in which he (1) turned a supposed rebuilding year into an 11-2 record with one of his youngest teams; and (2) celebrated his 70th birthday on Dec. 21. He also pulled within 34 of Bear Bryant's all-time record of 323 major-college coaching victories. Another 11-win campaign — and Paterno has 12 of them already — would



Joe Jurevicius

make him the fourth coach in major-college history to reach 300.

"It seems like he gets younger every year," says defensive tackle Brandon Noble, one of the stars of last year's team. "We get older. He just keeps going. And he still gets excited about every team."

The 1997 edition should be no exception. The Lions return 13 starters (six offense, seven defense) and also get back two defensive players who missed all last year with injuries.

quarterbacks

Wally Richardson led the Lions to a 20-5 record over the last two seasons and departed with 378 completions — second-best in school history — and Penn State's lowest career interception percentage (14 in 692 attempts).

Senior Mike McQueary, the heir apparent, saw action in eight regular-season games; he threw for 184 yards and produced 38 unanswered points to rally the Lions from a 20-10 halftime deficit against Indiana. That game triggered a season-ending five-game winning streak, capped by a 38-15 rout of Big 12 champion

Texas in the Fiesta Bowl.

Overall, McQueary completed 21 of 44 passes for 388 yards, three touchdowns and two interceptions. The challengers are untested sophomore Kevin Thompson and redshirt freshman Rashard Casey.

running backs

The ground attack returns intact with eight lettermen who combined for 2,544 yards a year ago. 1,210 belong to junior tailback Curtis Enis, who has led the team in rushing for two straight years — even though he didn't start a game in 1995 — and last year set a school record for receptions.

There's plenty of talent behind him in junior Chris Eberly and sophomores Chafie Fields and Cordell Mitchell. Fields scored on an 84-yard double reverse against Texas, the longest rushing play in Penn State's 33-game bowl history.

Jason Sload, last year's starter, returns at full-back for his senior year. He was used mostly for blocking. Sophomore Aaron Harris, quick and explosive, made a significant impact with 587 yards and nine touchdowns — 152 yards on just 11 carries against Iowa — along with 14 receptions.

receivers

Senior Joe Jurevicius helped ease the loss of the Bobby Engram-Freddie Scott tandem by catching 41 passes for 869 yards and four scores. His average of 21.2 yards a catch was second-best among the nation's top 50 receivers. He is a big-play pass-catcher.

Junior Joe Nastasi has dibs on the flanker job, with sophomores Corey Jones and Kenny Watson pushing hard.

The new tight end probably will be junior Cuncho Brown, who was the Lions' leading receiver in the Fiesta Bowl with three catches.

offensive linemen

For the second straight year more than half the offensive line must be replaced. Senior guard Phil Ostrowski and mammoth sophomore tackle John Blick are the holdovers. Senior Kevin Conlin started five games at guard and now moves to center.

Another probable returnee is senior guard Brad Jones, who started the 1996 opener. Other candidates include junior Ryan Fagan and sophomores Eric Cole, Gabe Tincher, Rich Stankewicz and Chance Bright.

"We have a lot of young people who are going to have to get good in a hurry," Paterno says. "We played a lot of young kids last year, and if some of them can stay healthy we could come out of it with a pretty good offensive line."



Curtis Enis



Aaron Collins

State Beats The Stats



Who says numbers don't lie?

In the Fiesta Bowl that capped the 1986 season, unbeaten No. 1 Miami outgained unbeaten No. 2 Penn State 445 yards to 162 — 160-109 rushing and 285-53 passing. Miami's Vinny Testaverde, the Heisman Trophy winner, threw 50 passes and 31 of them were caught. However, five were caught by Penn State defenders, including a goal-line interception by linebacker Pete Giftopoulos in the closing seconds to preserve Penn State's 14-10 triumph and give Joe Paterno his second national championship in five years.

son. Short takes over for the graduated Gerald Filardi, last year's leading tackler.

Senior Ahmad Collins and sophomores Aaron Gatten and Mac Morrison are returning lettermen at the outside positions, with sophomore Maurice Daniels inside.

defensive backs

A late-season injury to All-American Brian Miller enabled senior cornerback Shino Prater to crack the starting lineup. The only full-time returning regular is junior hero (strong safety) Shawn Lee. The return of senior Jason Collins, Aaron's brother, who started the first three games of 1995 before a broken leg sidelined him is a big boost for an otherwise young secondary. Collins was granted a sixth year of eligibility.

1/2

The portion of games in Penn State history in which Joe Paterno has either been an assistant coach or the head man. The Nittany Lions have played 1,044 games in 110 years and Paterno has coached in 522 of them.

defensive linemen

Five impact players are gone from a unit which ranked 13th nationally in scoring defense (15.7 points a game). However, the only loss from the front four was tackle Brandon Noble, the team MVP. Penn State should have the most athletic and talented defensive unit in its five-year Big Ten era.

Certain regulars are senior tackle Matt Fornadel and senior end Chris Snyder. With sophomore Brandon Short probably moving to inside linebacker, junior Brad Scioli, who missed the entire 1996 season after suffering a knee injury in the spring, is

a likely starter at either end or tackle.

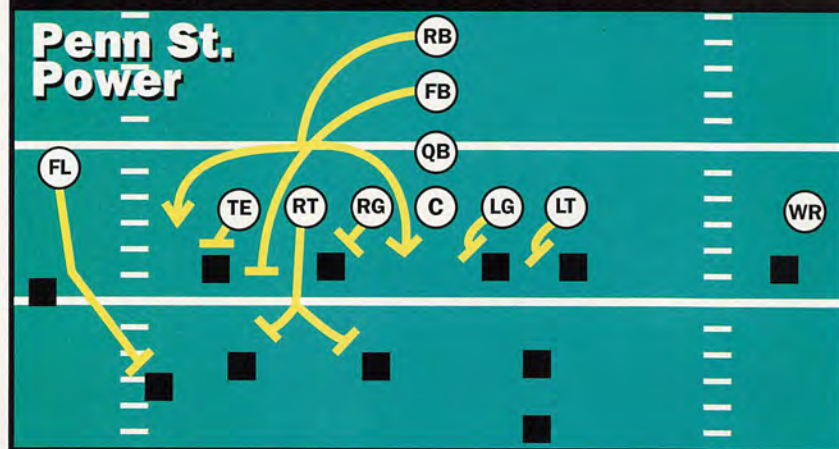
Juniors Mike Buzin and Floyd Wedderburn and sophomores David Fleischhauer and Imani Bell could figure prominently at tackle, while junior Clint Seace and promising sophomore Courtney Brown will contribute at end.

linebackers

There should be no drop-off at Linebacker U. Senior outside 'backers Aaron Collins and Jim Nelson are all-star candidates, with Short moving into the middle after a team-high 12 tackles for loss last sea-

Nittany Lions Critical Play

Nothing fancy here, but Curtis Enis has over 2,000 yards in two seasons, much of it following the lead of his fullback, then making a cut off his block.



Sophomores Anthony King and David Macklin and senior Chris Alston will vie for the other cornerback spot. Sophomore Askari Adams and junior Matt Joyner, the son of former Penn State All-American Dave Joyner, will compete at free safety.

specialists

Penn State lost outstanding placekicker Brett Conway, the No. 2 scorer in school history, likely will be succeeded by sophomore Travis Forney. Sophomore Pat Pidgeon is the new punter. He kicked 17 times for a 38.4-yard average in '96.

The candidates for return duties include Eberly, Watson, Fields and Mitchell. Watson averaged 23.5 yards on 16 kickoff returns.

1997 Penn State Roster

1996 Record:
Big Ten Record:

11-2
6-2

Head Coach:
Joe Paterno

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN	NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
18	Adams, Askari	S	6-0	185	So.	Camp Hill, PA	67	Kauffman, Scott	LB	5-11	190	So.	Kirkwood, PA
7	Alston, Chris	CB	6-1	188	Sr.	Chapel Hill, NC	94	Kiellmeyer, Marc	DE	6-6	235	Fr.	Westerville, OH
67	Ames, Craig	KS	5-10	185	Fr.	McClure, PA	19	King, Anthony	CB	5-8	170	So.	Norfolk, VA
74	Argiriadi, Tim	DL	6-0	270	Jr.	Stamford, CT	24	Lee, Shawn	DB	5-7	172	Jr.	Harrisburg, PA
57	Bell, Imani	DT	6-4	305	So.	Philadelphia, PA	33	Linnon, Chad	WR	5-8	157	Sr.	St. Petersburg, PA
78	Blick, John	OL	6-6	326	So.	Saylorsburg, PA	27	Macklin, David	CB	5-9	195	So.	Newport News, VA
92	Bolinsky, Rick	DL	6-1	275	Fr.	Mowry, PA	13	McHenry, David	QB	6-4	200	So.	Cincinnati, OH
28	Boylan, Adam	DB	6-1	177	Fr.	Zelienople, PA	81	McNutt, Neal	DE	6-5	247	Jr.	Womelsdorf, PA
77	Bright, Chance	OL	6-7	304	So.	Meadville, PA	9	McQueary, Mike	QB	6-4	215	Sr.	State College, PA
86	Brown, Courtney	DE	6-5	244	So.	Alvin, SC	32	Mitchell, Cordell	TB	6-0	191	So.	Syracuse, NY
82	Brown, Cuncho	TE	6-4	263	Jr.	Winston-Salem, NC	31	Morrison, Mac	LB	6-1	225	So.	Port Orchard, WA
96	Brozeski, Brian	TE	6-6	215	Fr.	Blairsville, PA	21	Nastasi, Joe	WR	5-11	184	Jr.	Woodbury, PA
76	Buzin, Mike	DT	6-3	258	Jr.	Westlake, OH	44	Nelson, Jim	OLB	6-2	224	Sr.	Waldorf, MD
36	Cerimele, Mike	FB	5-10	226	Fr.	Allentown, PA	42	Nixon, Jeff	FB	5-10	205	Sr.	State College, PA
49	Cleary, Anthony	FB	6-1	249	Jr.	Chambersburg, PA	85	Ostrosky, Doug	TE-P	6-6	211	Jr.	Pittsburgh, PA
51	Cole, Eric	T	6-5	295	So.	Kennett Square, PA	64	Ostrowski, Phil	G	6-4	274	Sr.	Wilkes-Barre, PA
6	Collins, Aaron	OLB	6-0	223	Sr.	Cinnaminson, NJ	70	Parmer, Brandon	KS	5-11	184	Jr.	Worthington, OH
55	Collins, Ahmad	OLB	6-0	223	Sr.	Harrisburg, PA	10	Pettigrew, Titcus	WR	6-0	200	So.	Winston-Salem, NC
8	Collins, Jason	DB	5-11	188	Sr.	Cinnaminson, NJ	56	Phillips, Aaron	DL	5-10	225	So.	Erie, PA
59	Conlin, Kevin	C	6-3	270	Sr.	Glenside, PA	41	Pidgeon, Pat	P	5-10	185	So.	Mayfield, PA
52	Daniels, Maurice	LB	6-0	229	So.	Alexandria, VA	1	Prater, Shino	CB	5-9	158	Sr.	Arlington, TX
79	Drogan, Dan	T	6-7	267	Jr.	Drums, PA	46	Render, J.T.	WR	5-9	157	Jr.	Upper St. Clair, PA
53	Dudley, Jim	OL	6-2	265	Fr.	Rome, GA	98	Rhule, Matt	DE	5-11	229	Jr.	State College, PA
23	Eberly, Chris	TB	5-11	210	Jr.	Beverly, NJ	48	Rose, Joe	DB	5-11	187	So.	Chambersburg, PA
39	Enis, Curtis	TB	6-1	230	Jr.	Union City, OH	97	Sabolevski, Joe	DT	6-0	265	Fr.	Roxbury, NH
60	Fagan, Ryan	T	6-7	282	Jr.	Pittsburgh, PA	45	Sandusky, Jon	DB	5-9	179	Fr.	State College, PA
2	Fields, Chafie	TB	6-1	195	So.	Philadelphia, PA	11	Sauve, Jeremy	DB-P	5-10	172	Fr.	Mechanicsburg, PA
95	Fleischhauer, David	DT	6-3	253	So.	Clemmons, NC	5	Scioli, Brad	DE	6-3	270	Jr.	Bridgeport, PA
18	Ryan, Flores	WR	6-0	190	So.	Norcross, GA	35	Seace, Clint	OLB	6-2	238	Jr.	Thorndale, PA
99	Fornadel, Matt	DT	6-2	246	Sr.	Bethel Park, PA	41	Seese, Ryan	DB	5-9	176	Fr.	Harrisburg, PA
29	Fornet, Travis	K	5-9	165	So.	Lock Have, PA	54	Sessions, Lewie	OL	6-6	260	So.	Troy, OH
4	Derek, Fox	DB	5-11	190	So.	Canton, OH	43	Short, Brandon	LB	6-3	250	So.	McKeesport, PA
40	Gatten, Aaron	LB	6-1	216	So.	Washington PA	15	Sload, Jason	FB	6-2	237	Sr.	Marysville, PA
73	Grant, Basim	OL	6-3	293	So.	Brooklyn, NY	91	Snyder, Chris	DE	6-3	250	Sr.	Chesapeake, VA
22	Gummo, Joe	CB	5-8	159	Jr.	Howard, PA	65	Stankewicz, Rich	T	6-3	280	So.	West Chester, PA
25	Harris, Aaron	FB	5-11	220	So.	Exton, PA	80	Stephenson, Bob	TE	6-2	225	Sr.	Waynesburg, PA
17	Johnson, Brad	WR	5-8	157	Jr.	Parkersburg, WV	29	Stewart, Andrew	WR	6-1	190	Fr.	Nashville, TN
63	Jones, Brad	G	6-6	273	Sr.	Beaver Falls, PA	16	Thompson, Kevin	QB	6-5	208	So.	Gaithersburg, MD
12	Jones, Corey	WR	5-10	164	So.	Lancaster, PA	50	Tincher, Gabe	OL	6-2	295	So.	Cincinnati, OH
26	Joyner, Matt	DB	6-0	188	Jr.	Hummelstown, PA	22	Watson, Kenny	WR	6-0	186	So.	Harrisburg, PA
83	Jurevicius, Joe	WR	6-5	226	Sr.	Chardon, OH	90	Wedderburn, Floyd	DT	6-5	319	Jr.	Upper Darby, PA
61	Katulis, John	OL	6-3	231	Fr.	Shenandoah, PA							

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

WR 83 Joe Jurevicius (Sr., 3); 22 Kenny Watson (So., 1)
LT 51 Eric Cole (So., 1); 65 Rich Stankewicz (So., 0)
LG 64 Phil Ostrowski (Sr., 1); 50 Gabe Tincher (So., 1)
C 59 Kevin Conlin (Sr., 1); 65 Rich Stankewicz (So., 0)
RG 63 Brad Jones (Sr., 1); 77 Chance Bright (So., 0)
RT 78 John Blick (So., 0); 60 Ryan Fagan (Jr., 0)
TE 82 Cuncho Brown (Jr., 2); 80 Bob Stephenson (Sr., 2)
QB 9 Mike McQueary (Sr., 1); 16 Kevin Thompson (So., 0)
FB 15 Jason Sload (Sr., 2); 25 Aaron Harris (So., 1)
TB 39 Curtis Enis (Jr., 2); 23 Chris Eberly (Jr., 2)
WR 21 Joe Nastasi (Jr., 2); 12 Corey Jones (So., 1)
K 17 Travis Fortney (So., 0)

DEFENSE (7)

DE 91 Chris Snyder (Sr., 3); 86 Courtney Brown (So., 1)
DT 99 Matt Fornadel (Sr., 3); 90 Floyd Wedderburn (Jr., 0)
DT 76 Mike Buzin (Jr., 1); 73 Imani Bell (So., 0)
DE 5 Brad Scioli (Jr., 2); 35 Clint Seace (Jr., 1)
LB 6 Aaron Collins (Sr., 3); 31 Mac Morrison (So., 1)
LB 43 Brandon Short (So., 1); 52 Maurice Daniels (So., 1)
LB 44 Jim Nelson (Sr., 2); 40 Aaron Gatten (So., 1)
CB 19 Anthony King (So., 1); 27 David Macklin (So., 1)
CB 1 Shino Prater (Sr., 3); 7 Chris Alston (Sr., 0)
SS 24 Shawn Lee (Jr., 2); 8 Jason Collins (Sr., 1)
FS 18 Askari Adams (So., 1); 26 Matt Joyner (Jr., 1)
P 41 Pat Pidgeon (So., 0)

(#) indicates number of returning starters
BOLD indicates returning starters
 Number after class indicates letters won

Top Returning Leaders

Passing: Mike McQueary, 21-44-388-2, 3 TDs
Rushing: Curtis Enis, 224 car., 1210 yds., 13 TDs
Receiving: Joe Jurevicius, 41 rec., 869 yds., 4 TDs
Scoring: Curtis Enis, 14 TDs, 84 points
Punting: Pat Pidgeon, 17 punts, 38.4 avg.
Kicking: none
Tackles: Jim Nelson, 82, 42 solo
Sacks: Jim Nelson, Aaron Collins, Chris Snyder, 5
Interceptions: Shawn Lee, 4 for 5 yards

1997 Schedule

Sept. 6 Pittsburgh
 Sept. 13 Temple
 Sept. 20 @ Louisville
 Oct. 4 @ Illinois
 Oct. 11 Ohio State
 Oct. 18 Minnesota
 Nov. 1 @ Northwestern
 Nov. 8 Michigan
 Nov. 15 @ Purdue
 Nov. 22 Wisconsin
 Nov. 29 @ Michigan St.

Rising Star

Tailback Curtis Enis had a great 1996 season, but sophomore fullback Aaron Harris, who started only one game, totaled 105 carries and 587 yards, second only to Enis among Penn State rushers.

1997 Signees

NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	HOMETOWN
Arrington, LaVar	LB	6-4	225	North Hills, PA
Bisson, Jason	OL	6-8	270	Upper St. Clair, PA
Blomgren, Travis	DB	6-1	195	Doylestown, PA
Boyd, James	DB	6-1	195	Chesa, VA
Branch, Bruce	WR	6-1	180	Richmond, VA
Caruso, Jordan	OL	6-5	305	Medford, NJ
Crenshaw, Sam	WR	6-4	200	Youngstown, OH
Easy, Omar	RB	6-2	230	Everett, MA
Gilmore, John	TE	6-4	230	Wernersville, PA
Graham, Ron	LB	6-3	240	Penn Hills, PA
Hannon, Casey	K	6-1	182	Lebanon, NJ
Hartings, Joe	OL	6-4	250	St. Henry, OH
Jones, Bob	TE	6-5	255	Wadsworth, OH
Jones, Brad	DT	6-4	260	Saltsburg, PA
Jue, Bhawoh	DB	6-1	185	Chantilly, VA
McKenzie, Kareem	OL	6-6	330	Willingboro, NJ
McKinney, Joe	LB	6-3	238	Mars, PA
Mitchell, Josh	OL	6-5	270	Doylestown, PA
Ransom, Greg	OL	6-4	300	Hamburg, NJ
Stewart, Tony	TE	6-7	240	Allentown, PA
Stoffer, Chad	OL	6-7	315	Hanoverton, OH

It has been just more than a decade since Joe Tiller was on the Purdue staff as defensive coordinator, and little has changed. The Boilermakers still haven't had a winning season, and with the exception of two years, they have not finished higher than the bottom third of the Big Ten.

Tiller has returned to Purdue as head coach, and his first and most important change was from a two-back to a one-back offense.

"This offense allows you to deal with physically superior opponents," Tiller says. It may help to balance that a little bit. I don't, however, feel that we have the personnel we need to run



Ed Watson

it the way we want to run it. But we've got to start somewhere."

quarterbacks

Offense starts with the quarterback, and Tiller is not one for going out on a limb and testing the untested.

Senior John Reeves has the physical attributes Tiller likes; he's 6-4, 217 pounds and he is a physical player. Reeves started five games during the middle of last season and threw for 772 yards and six touchdowns. Reeves has a strong, accurate arm, and he has the added bonus of mobility; he was the third-best rusher on the team.

The other candidate is senior Billy Dicken, a scrambler who has been unable to avoid season-ending injuries. He started twice early last season before suffering a fractured sternum. In 1995 he had a rotator cuff tear, and in the last game of 1994, he had a dislocated shoulder.

Tiller likes everything about redshirt freshman Clay Walters except his inexperience. And that means Walters will likely see playing time late in the season.

running backs

Senior Edwin Watson has posted 21 starts, including every game last season, and 1,593 rushing yards in his career. He is a 220-pound power back who is among the team's fastest players (4.49 in the 40). The starting fullback in '96 after a year at tailback, Watson is tailor-made for the new offensive scheme.

Also returning is senior Kendall Matthews, starting tailback and second-leading rusher a year ago. Matthews has quick feet and is more of a slasher than Watson.

Both are effective receivers out of the backfield, combining for 34 catches and 249 yards last season.

receivers

Tiller may have to do some experimenting and even a little prayer wouldn't hurt. The Boilermakers will miss senior Brian Alford, a first-team All-Big Ten wide receiver who didn't make the grade.

Without Alford, senior Willie Tillman will be the only wideout with considerable experience. Tillman is rangy and quick with big-play ability. He had 40 receptions for 557 yards and two touchdowns.

Sophomore Mike Hawthorne entered school as a defensive back, but he may find his niche as a receiver. He is a gifted athlete with tremendous acceleration, and Tiller will make a decision in the fall whether or not to move him to offense.

Tiller says there will be more emphasis on the tight end, and he is thrilled about the return of senior Jon Blackman, who did not play last year because of an off-field incident. Blackman, at 6-6, 260 pounds will figure into the offense immediately even though he has been away from the game.

offensive linemen

Senior left tackle Mark Fischer is the anchor of the line that returns four starters. Fischer, honorable mention All-Big Ten the last two years, has been a fixture since 1995 when the Boilermakers led the league and were eighth nationally in rushing offense (233 yards per game).

Brian Nicley, the other senior returnee, is back at center. Two sophomores, Nick Sweeney and Wayne Finchum, should regain their starting jobs at right tackle and left guard respectively. The right guard could be either senior Dan Maly or redshirt freshman Chucky Okobi.

defensive linemen

Junior defensive end Roosevelt Colvin may be on the small side at 6-3, 240, but he overcomes that with athleticism, aggressiveness and inten-



Rosevelt Colvin



Derrick Brown

Boilers Fall In Final Seconds



The Boilermakers earned their only 10-win season in 1979 when they came from behind to defeat Tennessee 27-22 in the Bluebonnet Bowl. Purdue led 21-0 in the third quarter, but Tennessee came back to take a 22-21 lead. Mark Herrmann threw a 38-yard touchdown pass to tight end Dave Young in the final seconds, giving the Boilermakers their third-straight bowl victory.

defensive backs

The Boilermaker secondary appears airtight, with three of four starters returning. Seniors Jamel Coleman and Derrick Brown and junior Willie Burroughs have combined for 66 starts, 450 tackles and 15 interceptions over the last three years.

Coleman was honorable mention All-Big Ten for his play at cornerback. He set a Purdue single-season record with 20 pass breakups, and he was 14th in the nation with five interceptions. In the other corner spot could be the aforementioned Hawthorne, if he's not playing offense. Sophomores Willie Washington and Lamar Conrad also have game experience.

Brown led the team with 102 tackles a year after leading the secondary with 73 solo stops. He has great hands and speed. He had four interceptions with 80 yards in returns, including a 59-yard touchdown.

12 The number of consecutive losing seasons the Boilermakers have endured since going 7-5 in 1984. Purdue's record is 40-88-4 with no bowl invites during this stretch.

The most bruising hitter is Burroughs, the strong safety known to his teammates as "The Hit Man." Burroughs notched 56 tackles last season, including two sacks.

specialists

The Boilermakers had two-man rotations handling the kicking and punting duties. Sophomore Danny Rogers likely will be the punter after averaging 39 yards, although junior Brandon Kaser averaged 39.6.

Sophomore placekicker Shane Ryan is only 5-8 but he has a strong, accurate leg. Ryan made four of six field-goal attempts and six of eight extra points. Senior Chris Arnce made only one field goal in five tries but made all but one of 16 extra-point tries.

Free safety Brown was the top punt returner, and junior Curtis Taylor is back to handle kickoff returns.

sity. Colvin, honorable mention All-Big Ten, tied for third in the conference with 18 tackles for loss and led the team with six sacks.

The tackle positions feature experienced seniors Leo Perez and Greg Smith, and junior Anthony Gutwein. Right end is the only spot that lacks a returning starter and is up for grabs between junior Chris Zurba and sophomore David Nugent.

linebackers

Two-time Butkus Award candidate Chike Okefor, who was second-team All-Big Ten

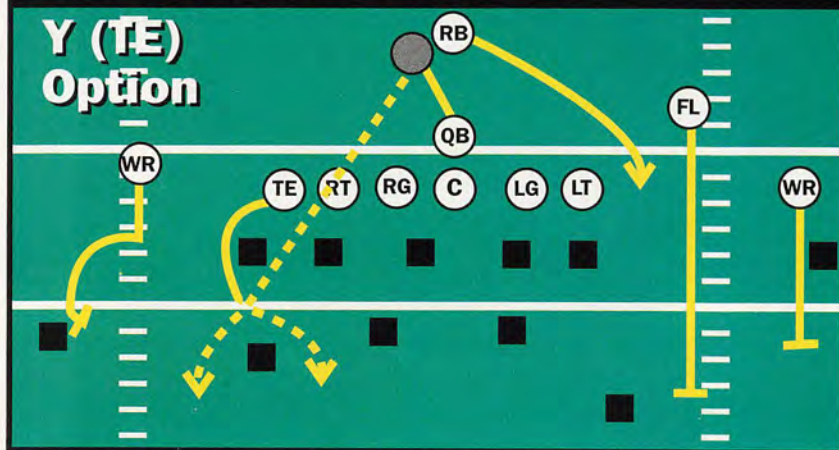
last season, is the only returning starter. Okefor, an aggressive run stopper, and Tiller must work out personality differences.

Tiller describes Okefor as "a loosey-goosey, carefree kid with his own set of rules." Tiller has big plans for the 6-5, 245-pound senior, who was third on the team with 85 tackles and is the Boilermakers' most experienced player with 30 starts. "He could be better than what he's been," Tiller says.

Junior Noble Jones, who made one start last season, and sophomores Nick Zitelli and Ray Lee will contend for the other starting assignments.

Boilermakers Critical Play

Coach Joe Tiller brought this proven 4-to-5 yard gainer from Wyoming. Look for it on first-down or third-and-five situations.



1997 Purdue Roster

1996 Record: 3-8
Big Ten Record: 2-6

Head Coach:
Joe Tiller

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN	NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
96	Allen, Ian	DT	6-5	245	Fr.	Fairburn, GA	6	Jones, Isaac	WR	6-0	195	Jr.	Wallingford, PA
17	Arnce, Chris	K	5-11	179	Sr.	Bonita, CA	32	Jones, Noble	SLB	6-2	240	Jr.	Atlanta, GA
51	Bacon, Troy	LB	6-0	20	Jr.	Sheridan, IN	92	Kaser, Brandon	P	6-1	175	Jr.	Crawfordville, IN
7	Beasley, Adrian	SS	6-0	193	So.	Atlanta, GA	57	Lee, Ray	LB	6-1	228	So.	Indianapolis, IN
84	Blackman, Jon	TE	6-6	260	Sr.	Yorkville, IL	91	Light, Matt	TE	6-5	245	So.	Greenville, OH
31	Botts Brent	ILB	6-3	225	Fr.	Cincinnati, OH	76	Maly, Dan	OL	6-6	291	Sr.	New Lenox, IL
85	Brown, Chad	WR	5-11	170	Jr.	Lebanon, IN	79	Manning, Chad	T	6-5	297	Sr.	Bakersfield, CA
2	Brown, Derrick	FS	5-10	185	Sr.	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	83	Mason, Ron	WR	6-1	170	Fr.	Indianapolis, IN
25	Brown, Travis	DB	5-9	175	So.	Lafayette, IN	43	Matthews, Kendall	TB	6-0	205	Sr.	St. Charles, MO
10	Brush, Lee	SS	5-10	197	Sr.	Winston-Salem, NC	8	McKay, Chris	DB	6-1	195	So.	Kokomo, IN
45	Bryant Jr., Cullen	RB	6-4	225	So.	Cordova, TN	67	Meyer, Dave	G	6-5	270	So.	Belleville, IL
22	Bunten, Aaron	K	5-10	175	Fr.	Danville, IN	90	Michels, Brian	DE	6-2	214	So.	Lincoln Way, IL
23	Burroughs, Willie	SS	5-10	199	Jr.	Punta Gorda, FL	17	Neal, Antoine	DB	5-9	180	So.	Indianapolis, IN
73	Cohen, David	OL	6-5	290	So.	Ballwin, MO	78	Nicley, Brian	C	6-6	280	Sr.	Hamilton, OH
8	Coleman, Adrian	WR	6-1	175	Fr.	Fort Wayne, IN	63	Niedrach, Jim	C	6-3	280	So.	LaGrange, GA
14	Coleman, Jamel	CB	6-0	192	Sr.	Indianapolis, IN	82	Nugent, David	DE	6-6	260	So.	Collierville, TN
59	Colvin, Rosevelt	DE	6-3	240	Jr.	Indianapolis, IN	49	Nwokorie, Chukie	DE	6-3	255	Jr.	Lafayette, IN
22	Conard, Lamar	DB	5-10	194	So.	Elkhart, IN	34	Okeafor, Chike	SLB	6-5	245	Sr.	West Lafayette, IN
20	Daniels, Chris	WR	6-3	198	So.	Clearwater, FL	98	Perez, Leo	DT	6-3	275	Sr.	Buffalo Grove, IL
99	Davies, Kurt	LB	6-3	240	Fr.	Evansville, IN	3	Reeves, John	QB	6-4	217	Sr.	Bradenton, FL
12	Dicken, Billy	QB	6-2	204	Sr.	Bloomington, IL	26	Reggers, Danny	P	5-10	193	So.	Sanibel, FL
50	Dinkins, Brian	DE	6-2	246	So.	Indianapolis, IN	28	Rose, Mike	LB	6-1	220	So.	Dayton, OH
43	Faulkner, Robert	DT	6-3	265	Jr.	Senatobia, MS	96	Ryan, Shane	K	5-8	170	So.	The Woodlands, TX
90	Fells, Willie	LB	6-1	205	Jr.	Palatka, FL	97	Smith, Greg	DT	6-3	278	Sr.	Chicago, IL
74	Finchum, Wayne	G	6-4	290	So.	Lynchburg, TN	60	Standifer, Andy	LS	6-1	205	So.	North Judson, IN
54	Fischer, Mark	T	6-4	290	Sr.	Cincinnati, OH	37	Stelma, Todd	DB	5-11	177	Sr.	Goshen, IN
87	Foggio, Rocco	DT	6-5	250	Fr.	Farmington, MI	52	Sweeney, Nick	T	6-7	340	So.	Salinas, CA
19	Gibson, Demetrius	DB	5-10	161	So.	Decatur, WA	25	Taylor, Curtis	TB	6-1	190	Jr.	Clifton, VA
38	Gillins, Bryce	DB	5-10	175	So.	Dania, FL	26	Thomas, Jason	DB	6-0	195	Jr.	Indianapolis, IN
95	Goatley, Jody	DE	6-4	240	Fr.	Hickory, KY	5	Tillman, Willie	WR	6-0	180	Sr.	Satellite Beach, FL
55	Goodrich, Greg	G	6-5	255	So.	Rochester, NH	9	Tolbert, Robert	WR	6-2	190	So.	Memphis, TN
77	Gorin, Brandon	DE	6-6	245	Fr.	Muncie, IN	21	Triplett, Tommy	DB	5-11	170	Jr.	Elmhurst, IL
31	Graham, Tarah	RB	5-8	190	Sr.	Wentzville, MO	90	VanderWeele, Pete	TE-T	6-5	295	Jr.	Fort Wayne, IN
75	Greer, Andrew	OL	6-4	287	Jr.	Lafayette, IN	15	Warner, Wade	QB	6-0	180	Jr.	LaPorte, IN
71	Gutwein, Anthony	DT	6-1	278	Jr.	Francesville, IN	27	Washington, Willie	DB	5-11	180	So.	Naples, FL
16	Haddad, Eric	FB	6-1	232	Jr.	Westlake, OH	36	Watson, Edwin	FB-TB	6-0	220	Sr.	Pontiac, MI
11	Hawthorne, Mike	FS	6-3	195	So.	Sarasota, FL	88	Wilson, John	WR	5-8	145	So.	Indianapolis, IN
87	Hollowell, Lewis	WR	5-9	170	Jr.	Indianapolis, IN	SS	5-10	195	So.	Converse, IN		
33	Jacquay, Brian	DB	5-7	154	So.	Bellmont, IN	1	Winston, Donald	WR	5-8	155	So.	Indianapolis, IN
81	Jewell, Brandon	TE	6-2	260	Sr.	Bowling Green, KY	44	Withers, Doug	LB	6-2	245	So.	S. Pasadena, CA
35	Johnson, Lee	TB	6-0	218	Jr.	Palatka, FL	39	Zitelli, Nick	LB	6-1	210	So.	McKees Rocks, PA
29	Johnson, Reggie	WR	5-11	195	Sr.	Plainfield, NJ	47	Zurba, Chris	DE	6-2	235	Jr.	Streamwood, IL

1997 Signees

NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	HOMETOWN
Ayodele, Akin	LB	6-3	230	Grand Prairie, TX
All-district; had 35 tackles and five quarterback sacks.				
Bell, Henry	CB	5-11	180	Los Angeles, CA
All-league.				
Brees, Drew	QB	6-1	200	Austin, TX
Texas 5A most valuable offensive player; completed 211 of 333 passes for 3,528 yds. and 31 TDs as a senior.				
Clopton, Chris	WR	5-7	163	Lynwood, IL
All-state; rushed for 3,600 yds. and 47 TDs in his career.				
Cox, Gabe	WR	5-10	190	Tucson, AZ
Second team junior college All-American; 50 catches for 1,300 yds and 13 TDs.				
Gustin, Billy	DB	6-2	195	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Recorded 55 tackles, five ints. and four blocked punts in 1996.				
Johnson, Dondre	RB	6-0	205	Kokomo, IN
All-state; rushed for 1,886 yds. and 25 TDs as a senior.				
Koppen, Brian	OL	6-6	290	Carpentersville, IL
All-area; graded out in the high 90 percent range for his blocking.				
Loerzel, Jason	WR	6-3	195	Park Ridge, IL
All-state; Illinois' Player-of-the-Year as a senior.				
Miles, Cortez	WR	5-10	175	Irving, TX
All-district; 18 catches for 333 yds. and six TDs as a senior.				
Mitchell, Jim	QB	6-3	190	Florissant, MO
Honorable mention all-state; passed for 2,300 yds., 32 TDs and only seven ints.				
Randolph, Chris	TE	6-5	240	Memphis, TN
Caught 31 passes for 297 yds. and four TDs; first team all-region.				
Rufolo, Sean	DT	6-3	270	Mokena, IL
All-state; all-conference; all-area.				
Smith, Ben	QB	6-3	185	Chadron, NE
Passed for 1,800 yds., 22 TDs and only three ints.				
Starling, R'Kes	CB	5-8	175	Arlington, TX
All-district; had 87 tackles and two pass ints., including one 65-yd. return for a TD.				
Starnes, Aaron	OL	6-3	310	Shawnee, KS
All-conference.				
Stratton, Tim	TE	6-4	215	Oak Brook, IL
All-state; caught 57 passes for 878 yds. and five TDs.				
Sutherland, Vinny	WR	5-10	185	W. Palm Bch., FL
Florida's Super 11; gained 600 yds. on 29 pass receptions as a senior.				

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (9)

WR	1	Donald Winston (So., 1); 20 Chris Daniels (So., 1)
LT	54	Mark Fischer (Sr., 3); 79 Chad Manning (Sr., 1)
LG	74	Wayne Finchum (So., 1); 76 Dan Maly (Sr., 2)
C	78	Brian Nicley (Sr., 3); 63 Jim Niedrach (So., 0)
RG	76	Dan Maly (Sr., 2)
RT	52	Nick Sweeney (So., 1); 73 David Cohen (So., 0)
TE	81	Brandon Jewell (Sr., 2); 90 Pete VanderWeele (Jr., 1)
QB	3	John Reeves (Sr., 2); 12 Billy Dicken (Sr., 3)
FB	36	Edwin Watson (Sr., 3); 16 Eric Haddad (Jr., 2)
TB	43	Kendall Matthews (Sr., 3); 35 Lee Johnson (Jr., 2)
WR	5	Willie Tillman (Sr., 3); 6 Isaac Jones (Jr., 2)
K	96	Shane Ryan (So., 1); 17 Chris Arnce (Sr., 1)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	59	Rosevelt Colvin (Jr., 2); 49 Chukie Nwokorie (Jr., 2)
DT	97	Greg Smith (Sr., 3); 71 Anthony Gutwein (Jr., 1)
DT	98	Leo Perez (Sr., 3); 71 Anthony Gutwein (Jr., 1)
DE	47	Chris Zurba (Jr., 2); 82 David Nugent (So., 1)
LB	34	Chike Okefor (Sr., 3); 39 Nick Zitelli (So., 1)
LB	57	Ray Lee (So., 1); 28 Mike Rose (So., 1)
LB	32	Noble Jones (Jr., 2); 40 Willie Fells (Jr., 1)
CB	27	Willie Washington (So., 1); 22 Lamar Conard (So., 1)
CB	14	Jamel Coleman (Sr., 2); 21 Tommy Triplett (Jr., 1)
SS	23	Willie Burroughs (Jr., 2); 10 Lee Brush (Sr., 3)
FS	2	Derrick Brown (Sr., 3); 11 Mike Hawthorne (So., 1)
P	26	Danny Rogers (So., 1); 92 Brandon Kaser (Jr., 1)

Top Returning Leaders

Passing: John Reeves, 51-102-772-5, 6 TDs
Rushing: Edwin Watson, 194 car., 768 yds., 6 TDs
Receiving: Willie Tillman, 40 rec., 557 yds., 2 TDs
Scoring: Edwin Watson, 6 TDs, 36 points
Punting: Danny Rogers, 56 punts, 39.0 avg.
Kicking: Shane Ryan, 4-6 FGs, 6-8 XP
Tackles: Derrick Brown, 102, 73 solo
Sacks: Roosevelt Colvin, 6
Interceptions: Jamel Coleman, 5 for 10 yards

1997 Schedule

Sept. 6	@ Toledo
Sept. 13	Notre Dame
Sept. 20	Ball State
Sept. 27	Northwestern
Oct. 11	@ Minnesota
Oct. 18	Wisconsin
Oct. 25	@ Illinois
Nov. 1	@ Iowa
Nov. 8	Michigan St.
Nov. 15	Penn State
Nov. 22	@ Indiana

Rising Star

The future at quarterback is redshirt freshman Clay Walters, a 6-4, 190-pounder, who was rated the 14th-best at the position coming out of high school in '96. Tiller likes his athleticism, particularly his mobility and vertical jump.

(#) indicates number of returning starters
BOLD indicates returning starters

With the return of virtually all of his skilled players, including Heisman candidate Ron Dayne at tailback, Barry Alvarez again has raised the bar in Wisconsin.

Not so quickly, says Alvarez. Dayne had a spectacular freshman season, rushing for more than 2,000 yards even though he didn't start until the fifth game. But Alvarez knows that war is won in the trenches, and that is where he has to rebuild, losing four fifth-year seniors off the offensive line.

"We can't get ahead of ourselves and say, 'Our running game is in order, now we have to improve the throwing game,'" reasons Alvarez. "Before we go anywhere, we've got to go back to



Donald Hayes

square one and re-establish our inside three on the offensive line. From there, we get to the point to where we improve."

quarterbacks

Mike Samuel has a very good arm and runs well, sometimes too much for his own good. He is the key for Wisconsin establishing a more balanced offensive game to compensate for its inexperienced offensive line. Once Dayne got rolling on the ground last season, Samuel went from throwing an average of 27 passes per game to averaging fewer than 11 over the last six games. He completed 58.3 percent of his passes in his first full season, but has to improve his touch and accuracy on the short and intermediate drops and over the middle.

Backup sophomore Scott Kavanagh also has a superb arm, poise and smarts.

running backs

"It was like trying to stop a Mack truck with a pea shooter," is the way Hawaii assistant Don Lindsey described the challenge of stopping 260-

pound tailback Ron Dayne. That regular season finale was no contest as Dayne rolled up 339 yards against Hawaii, capping a season in which he broke nearly every NCAA freshman rushing mark. Dayne uses his size to bowl over and plow through defenders and then runs like he has a phantom gear.

"He goes into the line, comes out the other end and then outruns the secondary," is the way Alvarez describes his special prize.

Fifth-year senior Carl McCullough is more than an able backup. Before Dayne burst on the scene, McCullough was the team's rushing leader with 1,038 yards in '95. Redshirt freshman Eddie Faulkner, a darter who can get around the outside quickly, provides a different look.

For the third straight season, the dirty work in the Badger backfield falls to fullback Cecil Martin, a strong blocker who also is a proven pass-catcher.

receivers

To resuscitate his passing game, Alvarez will lean on one of the league's finest receiver tandems. Tony Simmons, one of the fastest players in the Big Ten who just missed qualifying for the 100 meters at the U.S. Olympic trials, returns to flanker after an injury-plagued season. He will be complemented by 6-5 Donald Hayes, the team's leading receiver last year. While Simmons is a blazer, Hayes has excellent size, good hands and the toughness that enabled him to go over the middle when he was the Badgers' only targeted receiver last season.

Kevin Huntley, another speedster who runs the high hurdles, returns to wide receiver after playing the last two seasons at safety. Like Simmons, he can stretch the defense.

Eric Grams, a former walk-on, returns as a steady performer at tight end. Ryan Sondrup, a better receiver, will contest Grams for the job.

offensive linemen

Fluctuating between 370 and 390 pounds, Aaron Gibson is the biggest player in Division I-A. He wears a size 62 coat and a size 19 shoe, but can perform a cheerleader's split. He'll be one of the answers Alvarez seeks in rebuilding his line. The last half of '95 with Gibson lined up at tight end, Wisconsin rushed for 263 yards per game. He will slide over a slot to right tackle. At left tackle, redshirt sophomore Chris McIntosh is a grizzled veteran, the only returning starter in the line.

Junior college transfer Coleman Johnson looks like a peanut compared to the tackles, but Alvarez is counting on him to start at center. Johnson brings a hunger for big-time football after he spent a troubled year as a redshirt freshman two years ago with an injury amid run-ins with the strength coach.



Ron Dayne



Jason Suttle

The leading candidates at guard among five redshirt freshman are Dave Costa and Bill Ferrario, who was switched from the defensive line. They are each a few pounds shy of 300, but are quick and provide the best pulling ability since Joe Rudolph made a difference in the 1993 Rose Bowl season.

defensive linemen

Tom Burke, the only returning starter, who played inside last season, will assume the defensive end position vacated by the departure of Wisconsin's all-time sack leader Tarek Saleh. Alvarez says Burke is bigger,

stronger and a tad faster than Saleh.

John Favret, a high school All-American in 1995, emerged in spring practice to nail down the other defensive end spot. Chris Janek moved in at nose guard after seeing action in reserve last season. Sophomore Ross Kolodziej, a sophomore who played last year before breaking his hand, is expected to assume the tackle post though he missed spring practice with an appendectomy.

linebackers

This is another vulnerable position for the Badgers after losing Pete Monty, the all-time

Defense Comes Up Rosy



The Wisconsin defense forced six turnovers and its offense gained 250 yards on the ground as the Badgers downed UCLA 21-16 for its first-ever victory on New Year's Day, the 1994 Rose Bowl. More than 70,000 Badger fans attended the game to provide a distinct home field advantage even though the contest was played in the Bruins' home facility.

leading tackler at Wisconsin. Also, the Badgers received a tough blow when Donny Eicher, a projected starter, tore his ACL in the spring game. He will miss the entire season. David Lysek, one of only two returnees in the front seven, is a hard-hitter. Senior Brian Flanigan should man the other inside spot.

Eicher's injury opens the door for former walk-on Donnel Thompson to compete with Flanigan. Junior Bob Adamov, a strong run-stopper, has been moved from strong safety to the outside linebacking position where the list of candidates includes sophomores Eddie Hartwell, Ryan Marks and junior Marcus White, a former quarterback.

1,066

Ron Dayne gained 1,066 yards after contact last season. That is more than half of his NCAA-record setting 2,109 rushing yards earned last season.

defensive backs

This is a unit that needs to be shored up after yielding just over 251 passing yards per game, the worst in school history.

Senior Jason Suttle, the best coverage man, is the anchor at cornerback. He led the team with five interceptions. Senior LaMar Campbell broke up 12 passes last year at the other corner and picked off four other throws.

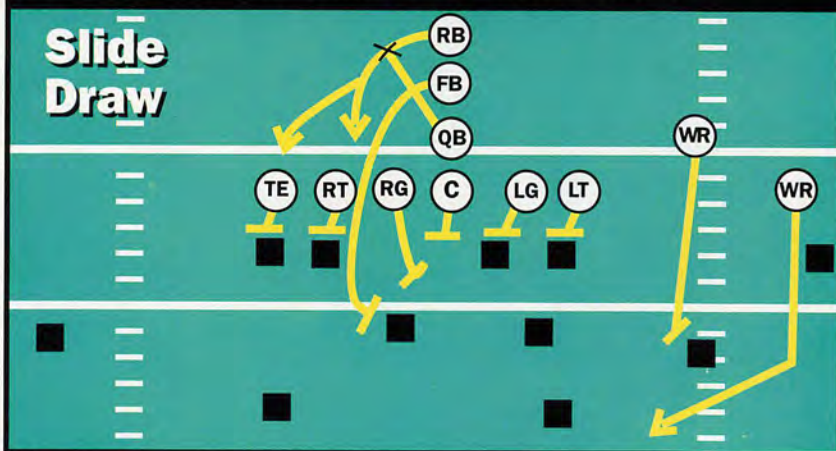
Sophomore Bobby Myers returns to free safety and will be challenged by Jean Jourdain, a former receiver who was so aggressive in downfield blocking that coaches moved him to defense. Leonard Taylor, a former starter at cornerback, moves to strong safety.

specialists

Jeff Hall did all the leg work for the Badgers last season and must be replaced with two players. Sophomore Vitaly Pisetsky is the leading candidate for placement kicks. Eric Skrzypchak was the team's pooch punter last season and did all the punting in the spring, but incoming freshman Kevin Stemke, a prep All-American will likely earn the job.

Badgers Critical Play

Is it a run or is it a pass? Both backs slide to G/T gap. The FB blocks the first LB inside and the tailback has options either straight upfield or outside.



1997 Wisconsin Roster

1996 Record:
Big Ten Record:

7-5
3-5

Head Coach:
Barry Alvarez

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
29	Adamov, Bob	DB	6-0	220	Jr.	Sturgeon Bay, WI
7	Austin, Willie	WR	6-3	182	So.	Miami, FL
67	Bradley, Nick	OL	6-5	297	Fr.	Woodbury, MN
17	Brown, Demetrius	DB	6-3	204	So.	Milwaukee, WI
3	Bryant, Onjai	DB	5-11	181	So.	Pine Hills, NJ
74	Burke, Tom	DE	6-4	243	Jr.	Poplar, WI
9	Burlingame, Bret	DB	6-0	190	Fr.	Ft. Atkinson, WI
38	Campbell, LaMar	DB	5-11	176	Sr.	Chester, PA
32	Cantrell, Branden	RB	6-2	262	Sr.	Indianapolis, IN
25	Carpenter, Marcus	DE	6-2	261	So.	Elkhart, IN
36	Christen, Rob	RB	5-11	213	Fr.	St. Cloud, MN
54	Costa, Dave	OL	6-5	293	Fr.	Ellwood City, PA
99	Cruikshank, Dave	DE	6-5	253	Jr.	Dana Point, CA
4	Czukas, Joe	KP	5-10	180	So.	Milwaukee, WI
66	Daley, Pat	OL	6-5	320	So.	Iron Mountain, MI
28	Davenport, Matt	K	5-7	160	Jr.	Mission Miego, CA
51	Davis, Mark	LB	6-0	224	Jr.	Waukesha, WI
33	Dayne, Ron	RB	5-10	261	So.	Pine Hill, NJ
23	Dickerson, Josh	WR	6-2	190	Fr.	Schofield, WI
63	Dienger, Tim	OL	6-3	253	So.	Onalaska, WI
8	Downs, Chris	WR	6-2	198	So.	Carlsbad, CA
58	Eck, Jason	OL	6-4	274	So.	Atlanta, GA
50	Eicher, Donny	OLB	6-3	248	So.	Hartland, WI
31	Elmore, Sam	DB	6-1	193	Fr.	Banning, CA
99	Essenmacher, Kurt	K	5-10	173	Jr.	Middleton, WI
4	Faulkner, Eddie	RB	5-11	196	Fr.	Muncie, IN
96	Favret, John	DE	6-4	236	Fr.	Cleveland Hgts, OH
93	Ferrario, Bill	OL	6-3	295	Fr.	Scranton, PA
55	Flanigan, Brian	LB	6-2	238	Sr.	Sturgeon Bay, WI
16	Ghidorzi, Chris	LB	6-3	237	So.	Wausau, WI
79	Gibson, Aaron	OL	6-7	390	Jr.	Indianapolis, IN
27	Glenn, Damon	DB	5-10	184	Sr.	East Chicago, IN
89	Grams, Eric	TE	6-4	260	Jr.	Fond du Lac, WI
73	Gribowski, Joe	OL	6-6	327	Fr.	Mosinee, WI
5	Hartwell, Ed	LB	6-2	225	Fr.	Las Vegas, NV
84	Hayes, Donald	WR	6-5	198	Sr.	Madison, WI
6	Huntley, Kevin	WR	6-2	212	Sr.	Freemont, OH
59	Innis, Joe	NG	6-2	278	Sr.	Sturgeon Bay, WI
58	Janek, Chris	NG	6-3	282	So.	Granite City, IL
52	Johnson, Coleman	OL	6-2	268	Jr.	Riverside, CA
30	Jourdain, Jean	DB	6-0	195	So.	Evanston, IL

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
78	Kampmann, Kevin	OL	6-4	304	So.	Sheboygan Falls, WI
12	Kavanagh, Scott	QB	6-4	198	So.	Naperville, IL
57	Koch, Philip	OL	6-4	263	Fr.	San Jose, CA
78	Kolodziej, Ross	DT	6-3	294	Fr.	Stevens Point, WI
91	Lurtsema, Rob	DE	6-5	262	Sr.	Burnsville, MN
57	Lysek, David	LB	6-2	236	Sr.	Bethlehem, PA
71	Mahlk, Eric	NG	6-3	258	Fr.	Green Bay, WI
37	Martin, Cecil	RB	6-2	233	Jr.	Evanston, IL
19	McCormick, Ben	QB	6-2	209	Sr.	Columbus, WI
13	McCullough, Carl	RB	6-3	229	Sr.	St. Paul, MN
75	McIntosh, Chris	OL	6-7	315	Sr.	Pewaukee, WI
1	Merritt, Ahmad	WR	5-10	195	So.	Chicago, IL
9	Mueller, Sam	OLB	6-5	247	Fr.	Fond du Lac, WI
26	Myers, Bobby	DB	6-2	180	So.	Hamden, CT
61	Paulik, Chris	OL	6-2	322	Jr.	Menomonee Falls, WI
76	Pickett, Chris	OL	6-7	254	Fr.	Schaumburg, IL
20	Pisetsky, Vitaly	K	5-10	203	So.	New York, NY
17	Prohaska, Josh	P	6-0	205	Jr.	Phillips, WI
70	Rabach, Casey	OL	6-5	309	Fr.	Sturgeon Bay, WI
87	Retzlaff, Dague	TE	6-8	271	Fr.	Crystal, MN
53	Roell, Rob	DT	6-5	267	So.	Iron Mountain, MI
15	Rosga, Tim	DB	6-0	194	So.	Roseville, MN
47	Ross, Karim	LB	6-3	248	Fr.	Country Club Hills, IL
10	Samuel, Mike	QB	6-3	216	Jr.	Philadelphia, PA
46	Schneck, Mike	LB	6-0	239	So.	Whitefish Bay, WI
82	Simmons, Tony	WR	6-2	203	Sr.	Chicago, IL
23	Skrzypchak, Eric	P	5-11	187	So.	Wausau, WI
49	Sondrup, Ryan	TE	6-5	257	Jr.	Fort Collins, CO
28	Suttle, Jason	DB	5-11	182	Sr.	Burnsville, MN
74	Tauscher, Mark	OL	6-3	310	So.	Auburndale, WI
34	Taylor, Leonard	DB	6-0	187	Jr.	Indianapolis, IN
44	Thompson, Donnel	LB	6-0	233	So.	Madison, WI
29	Triplett, Delta	WR	5-9	163	Sr.	Milwaukee, WI
33	Wagner, Scott	DB	6-0	184	Sr.	Milton, WI
95	Waisanen, Erik	DT	6-2	317	So.	Fond du Lac, WI
18	Washington, Shadrack	DB	6-4	213	Fr.	Milwaukee, WI
2	White, Marcus	OLB	6-2	228	So.	Evanston, IL
92	Williams, Brandon	DE	6-4	266	Jr.	Buffalo, NY
22	Williams, Charles	RB	6-0	204	So.	Florissant, MO
21	Williams, Tony	DB	5-11	208	So.	So. Huntington, NY

1997 Signees

NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	HOMETOWN
Anelli, Mark	TE	6-5	240	Addison, IL
Chambers, Chris	WR	6-1	180	Bedford, OH
Daniels, Carlos	RB	6-1	215	Farrell, PA
Dox, Jeremy	DL	6-2	275	St. Paul, MN
Echols, Mike	DB	5-11	165	Youngstown, OH
Fletcher, Jamar	DB	5-10	175	St. Louis, MO
Golden, Rasheed	WR	5-11	160	Ft. Myers, FL
Habermann, Aaron	DL	6-3	265	Hartland, WI
Jakubowski, Josh	OL	6-6	335	Schofield, WI
Johnson, Coleman	OL	6-2	268	Riverside, CA
King, Donte	DB	5-10	180	Los Angeles, CA
Knight, Roger	LB	6-2	215	Queens Village, NY
Kuhns, Chad	FB	6-1	220	Bellevue, OH
Lamont, Brian	OL	6-8	305	Browntown, WI
Lee, Peter	QB	6-5	180	Chicago, IL
Lisowski, Dan	LB	6-1	225	M. Falls, WI
McGrew, Delante	LB	6-3	215	Brooklyn, OH
Pratt, George	DL	6-6	265	Chicago, IL
Sigmund, John	TE	6-6	250	Sewell, NJ
Smith, Charlie	DE	6-6	240	Elkhart, IN
Stemke, Kevin	P	6-1	175	Green Bay, WI

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

SE 84 Donald Hayes (Sr., 3); 6 Kevin Huntley (Sr., 3)
LT 75 Chris McIntosh (So., 1); 74 Mark Tauscher (So., 0)
LG 54 Dave Costa (Fr., 0); 73 Joe Gribowski (Fr., 0)
C 52 Coleman Johnson (Jr., 0); 54 Dave Costa (Fr., 0)
RG 93 Bill Ferrario (Fr., 0); 70 Casey Rabach (Fr., 0)
RT 79 Aaron Gibson (Jr., 1); 69 Pat Daley (So., 0)
TE 89 Eric Grams (Jr., 1); 49 Ryan Sondrup (Jr., 2)
QB 10 Mike Samuel (Jr., 2); 12 Scott Kavanagh (So., 1)
FB 37 Cecil Martin (Jr., 2); 32 Branden Cantrell (Sr., 3)
TB 33 Ron Dayne (So., 1); 13 Carl McCullough (Sr., 3)
FL 82 Tony Simmons (Sr., 3); 1 Ahmad Merritt (So., 1)
K 20 Vitaly Pisetsky (So., 0); 28 Matt Davenport (Jr., 0)

DEFENSE (5)

DE 74 Tom Burke (Jr., 2); 25 Marcus Carpenter (So., 1)
NG 58 Chris Janek (So., 1); 59 Joe Innis (Sr., 0)
DT 78 Ross Kolodziej (Fr., 0); 53 Rob Roell (So., 0)
DE 96 John Favret (Fr., 0); 99 Dave Cruickshank (Jr., 1)
OLB 29 Bob Adamov (Jr., 2); 5 Ed Hartwell (Fr., 0)
ILB 55 Brian Flanigan (Sr., 3); 44 Donnel Thompson (So., 1)
ILB 57 David Lysek (Sr., 3); 16 Chris Ghidorzi (So., 1)
CB 38 LaMar Campbell (Sr., 3); 3 Onjai Bryant (So., 1)
CB 28 Jason Suttle (Sr., 3); 31 Sam Elmore (Fr., 0)
SS 34 Leonard Taylor (Jr., 2); 15 Tim Rosga (So., 1)
FS 26 Bobby Myers (So., 1); 30 Jean Jourdain (So., 1)
P 23 Eric Skrzypchak (So., 1); Kevin Stemke (Fr., 0)

(#) indicates number of returning starters
BOLD indicates returning starters
 Number after class indicates letters won

Top Returning Leaders

Passing: Mike Samuel, 148-254-1752-10, 8 TDs
Rushing: Ron Dayne, 325 car., 2109 yds., 21 TDs
Receiving: Donald Hayes, 44 rec., 629 yds., 1 TD
Scoring: Ron Dayne, 21 TDs, 126 points
Punting: Eric Skrzypchak, 10 punts, 33.3 avg.
Kicking: none
Tackles: David Lysek, 88, 56 solo
Sacks: Marcus Carpenter, 1
Interceptions: Jason Suttle, 5 for 57 yards

1997 Schedule

Aug. 24 Syracuse (NJ)
 Sept. 6 Boise State
 Sept. 13 @ San Jose St.
 Sept. 20 San Diego St.
 Sept. 27 Indiana
 Oct. 4 @ Northwestern
 Oct. 11 Illinois
 Oct. 18 @ Purdue
 Oct. 25 @ Minnesota
 Nov. 8 Iowa
 Nov. 15 Michigan
 Nov. 22 @ Penn State

Rising Star

Sophomore Rob Roell, expected to play extensively last season, injured his knee and sat out. He is hungry and impressed the coaches in the spring. Highly touted in high school, he is strong and mobile, excelling at stopping the run as well as rushing the passer.

Cincinnati coach Rick Minter has a simple plan for this season. He will have a massive backfield line up behind a gargantuan offensive line and then commence to pound the ball up the gut of the defense. Nothing fancy. Nothing elaborate. Just good old-fashioned, smash-mouth football.

"Our goal is to rank in the Top 10 nationally in rushing," says Minter, who has guided the Bearcats to back-to-back winning seasons, something not seen in the Queen City since the 1981 and '82 seasons.

"With our passing game a question, we've got to run the ball effectively," the coach says.



Phillip Curry

Last fall, the 6-5 Bearcats averaged a respectable 181.4 yards rushing (32nd nationally). Minter says he wants that per-game figure to hit 230. And with the five best rushers returning (four of whom weigh 220 pounds or more, including scrambling junior quarterback Chad Plummer), that mark is within reach.

quarterbacks

This is the year Plummer emerges. OK, everybody said that prior to last season, but this time it will happen. Plummer is long-limbed, raw-boned, and tough to tackle.

Compare Plummer's rushing numbers to those totaled last season by Marcus Crandell, then at East Carolina (a Conference USA football newcomer) and a big-time, rushing signal-caller. Crandell had 109 yards on 43 carries for a 2.5-yard average. Plummer netted 251 yards on 100 carries; he also averaged 2.5 yards. In short, Plummer likes to motor upfield and is adept at doing so. Expect more of that this fall.

In terms of passing, Plummer needs work, prompting Minter to say, "We'd like to think

Chad is ready. He has some lessons from last season behind him."

Specifically, Plummer completed 102-of-198 pass attempts (51.5 percent) for 1,335 yards, seven touchdowns and eight interceptions. His efficiency rating was a modest 111.7, due, in part, to Plummer's occasional tendency to force plays. Improvement in this area is expected.

running backs

How big are the Bearcat ball carriers? Check this: Senior combination back Daryl Royal is 6-2, 223; Landon Smith, a senior fullback, is 5-11, 240; junior tailback Orlando Smith, back after missing most of last season with a broken ankle, is 6-1, 247. Royal, who replaced Orlando Smith, registered a 5.1-yards-per-carry average but was slowed by an injury himself and yielded his starting spot in Game 8 to then-freshman Robert Cooper, the small fry of the batch at 5-11, 197.

Look for an opening-day, starting tandem of Landon Smith at fullback and Royal at tailback, with Orlando Smith a fine multipurpose backup.

receivers

Plummer will improve his efficiency rating but it might not be because of great wideouts. Other than junior Cornelius Bonner, who averaged 19.0 yards on 11 catches, there is no other proven split receiver. However, Royal and Landon Smith are highly effective catching the ball out of the backfield and should get even more opportunities with Anthony Ladd and Robert Tate gone.

Also, watch redshirt freshman Jason Collins-Baker and junior college arrival John Powell, wide receivers Minter feels could help the 'Cats.

Junior tight end Josh Anderson (13.5 yards per catch) is capable of averaging 15.0 yards, which would rank high nationally among tight ends were such a stat met.

offensive linemen

No doubt, this is a run-blocking group of young goliaths. Improved foot/hand quickness is needed for better dropback pass blocking, but sheer size alone might make that improvement difficult. Again, Plummer's dodging and darting skills will help mask the deficiency.

As a group, the top six linemen average 6-5, 310.

The anchor is All-C-USA senior left tackle Jason Fabini, UC's best pass blocker and NFL material at 6-7, 320. Senior left guard Joel Dolinski was a second-team, all-league pick and junior center Brian Uhl honorable mention. They can rotate positions. Sophomore right guard Ken Biggs benefited from the redshirting



Daryl Royal

Bearcats Upset Lions in '83



Although then-defending national champion Penn State had earlier suffered a 44-6 pounding by Nebraska to start the season, the Nittany Lions were expected to have little trouble with visiting Cincinnati on Sept. 10, 1983. In perhaps the Bearcats' most significant win ever, they stunned Penn State 14-3 at Beaver Stadium. UC would finish the campaign 4-6-1; Penn State never recovered, ending at 8-4-1 and with no Associated Press postseason ranking.

and junior Hassan Champion were the most productive linebacker combo in the league last fall and will repeat in 1997. At least two could earn All-C-USA honors. Jackson is the iron man, totaling a team-high 734 plays. Curry, the middleman, moves well laterally and should lead the team for the third straight year in total tackles and tackles for loss.

Junior middle linebacker Rob Lucas is the top reserve and a quality playmaker. Of his 109 plays, he tallied 27 solo or assisted tackles, a 24.9 percent participation mark. No other Cincy defender of note challenged that percentage.

of massive Matt Knutson (6-6, 369). Minter says Knutson will see considerable minutes. Senior right tackle Pierre Brilliant may be a tad slow but he's 6-8, 325.

"Our linemen our fairly good athletes (considering their size)," Minter says. "They have a good personalities and good study habits."

defensive linemen

Minter incorporates a standard 4-3 alignment, and three starting linemen return, keyed by senior defensive end Derrick Ransom, whose six sacks were substan-

tial for an interior lineman. Senior John Kobalka mans one tackle spot with junior Kevin Ward at the other. Kobalka will continue to receive backup help from senior Fred Ward.

The other defensive end spot is a concern. Percy Evans and David Jackson, both juniors, are competent players but not All-C-USA material. Thus, look for junior-college transfer Ted Grubb to make an immediate impact.

linebackers

Seniors Brad Jackson and Phillip Curry,

21% The percentage of Cincinnati's metropolitan population (1.6 million) needed to fill 35,000-seat Nippert Stadium, a manageable percentage for UC athletics officials looking to boost attendance.

defensive backs

Help! Three starters are missing and senior cornerback Artrell Hawkins, though an intelligent and versatile back (he can play all four positions), is not a great runner/jumper.

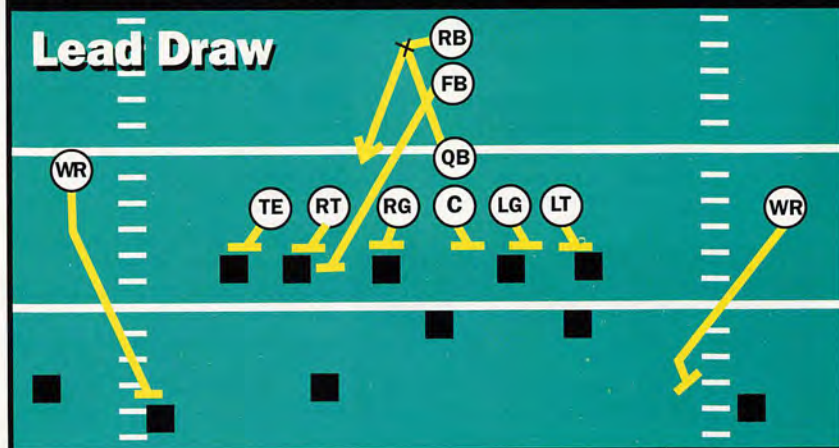
Minter expects junior college arrivals Eric Harper (strong safety) and Tinker Keck (free safety) to play from Day One. Don't overlook junior corner Don McKnight.

specialists

Senior kicker Eric Richards is a first-team, all-conference pick. However, C-USA is not known for its kickers, as Richards' 1-of-8 success rate for field goals of 40 yards or more suggests. Nevertheless, he is an above-average kicker. Senior Doug Johnson will handle punting chores. No return man of significance from a year ago will be available to the Bearcats so Cooper may be called upon.

Bearcats Critical Play

With a seven-step drop, play-action fake, quarterback takes ball to tailback, who then follows fullback to day-light.



1997 Cincinnati Roster

1996 Record: 6-5
C-USA Record: 2-3

Head Coach:
Rick Minter

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
88	Anderson, Josh	TE	6-3	255	Jr.	Akron, OH
72	Armstead, Fred	DT	6-3	261	So.	Miami, FL
98	Augustus, Kenny	DL	6-3	275	Jr.	Bowlingbrook, IL
49	Beal, Eric	FB	6-0	230	Jr.	Lancaster, TX
54	Beckham, Jeremy	OL	6-3	320	Fr.	Dayton, OH
76	Bell, Chris	T	6-6	306	So.	Union, OH
66	Biggs, Ken	G	6-5	284	So.	Wallingford, CT
84	Bonner, Cornelius	WR	6-0	179	Jr.	Gaffney, SC
46	Brayboy, Gerard	FS	5-10	184	Jr.	Cocoa, FL
78	Brilliant, Pierre	T	6-8	326	Sr.	Garnerville, NY
74	Bryant, Scott	OL	6-3	290	So.	Orlando, FL
87	Burrow, Jeff	WR	5-8	182	So.	Sylvestre, GA
63	Byrd, Vincent	OL	6-2	292	Jr.	Junction City, KS
48	Champion, Hassan	LB	6-1	226	Jr.	Tallahassee, FL
52	Chayra, Steve	LS	6-2	218	Sr.	Las Vegas, NV
1	Cole, Lowery	LB	6-2	226	Sr.	Meridian, MS
83	Collins-Baker, Jason	WR	5-10	181	Fr.	Detroit, MI
33	Cooper, Robert	RB	5-11	197	So.	Bainbridge, GA
31	Coppola, Bob	WR	6-1	198	Fr.	Lowellville, OH
45	Curry, Phillip	LB	6-0	239	Sr.	Pontiac, MI
43	Davis, Rommel	TE	6-1	249	Fr.	Columbus, OH
61	Dolinski, Joel	G	6-2	300	Sr.	Ambridge, PA
15	Elder, Jon	QB	6-3	202	Jr.	Sioux City, IA
92	Evans, Percy	DE	6-3	257	Jr.	Boston, MA
67	Fabini, Jason	T	6-7	320	Sr.	Fort Wayne, IN
40	Ferguson, Shawn	DB	5-7	180	Jr.	Gretna, FL
22	Gossett, DeJuan	DB	5-11	188	Fr.	Cincinnati, OH
94	Grubb, Ted	DL	6-4	234	Jr.	Hollywood, KS
6	Harper, Eric	DB	5-11	204	Jr.	McKeesport, PA
21	Hawkins, Artrell	CB	5-10	190	Sr.	Johnstown, PA
11	Hergott, Greg	QB	6-2	216	Jr.	St. Mitchell, KY
31	Howell, Jerry	CB	5-10	192	Jr.	Youngstown, OH
80	Hunt, Ashley	TE	6-5	238	Fr.	Leesburgh, FL
3	Jackson, Brad	LB	6-2	224	Sr.	Akron, OH
93	Jackson, David	DE	6-2	226	Jr.	Belle Glade, FL
43	Johnson, Doug	P	5-9	206	Sr.	Loveland, OH
39	Johnson, Eddie	LB	6-0	206	Fr.	Kirkland, WA
13	Judge, Joe	K	5-11	172	So.	Fairfield, OH
9	Keck, Tinke	DB	6-1	193	Jr.	Goodland, KS
71	Knutson, Matt	G	6-6	369	So.	Orlando, FL
99	Kobalka, John	DT	6-4	270	Sr.	Olmsted Falls, OH

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
70	Lisek, Jason	OL	6-4	274	So.	Mishawaka, IN
41	Lucas, Rob	LB	6-0	237	Jr.	Fort Wayne, IN
17	Manning, Jason	WR	5-11	182	Fr.	Columbus, OH
24	McCool, Jeff	QB	6-3	221	Fr.	Palatka, FL
19	McKnight, Don	CB	5-9	172	Jr.	Miami, FL
14	Owens, Jamain	WR	6-0	190	Jr.	Cleveland, OH
16	Petrus, Brent	QB	6-4	203	Sr.	Elyria, OH
57	Phelps, James	LB	6-1	225	So.	Cincinnati, OH
4	Plummer, Chad	QB	6-3	230	Jr.	Tallahassee, FL
2	Powell, John	WR	6-2	175	Jr.	Saint Louis, MO
89	Preston, Bryan	TE	6-5	256	So.	Springboro, OH
95	Ransom, Derrick	DE	6-4	289	Sr.	Indianapolis, IN
12	Richards, Eric	K	5-8	160	Sr.	Margate, FL
11	Rodgers, T.J.	DB	5-11	194	Fr.	Youngstown, OH
38	Royal, Daryl	RB	6-2	223	Sr.	Columbus, OH
82	Safi, Saeed	FB	5-11	213	Jr.	Union, KY
90	Savage, Deron	DT	6-2	315	Jr.	Boynton Beach, FL
41	Scarlatto, Corey	FB	6-0	237	Sr.	St. Thomas, KY
79	Scheithe, Don	T	6-3	303	So.	Beacon Falls, CT
33	Schorsch, Mark	DB	6-2	173	Fr.	Cincinnati, OH
22	Simmons, Jason	RB	5-11	232	Fr.	Crawfordville, IL
69	Skillings, John	OL	6-5	290	Jr.	Champaign, IL
32	Smikle, Tony	DB	6-3	208	Fr.	Farmingdale, NY
42	Smith, Aaron	LB	6-0	234	Fr.	East Chicago, IN
35	Smith, Freddy	DB	6-0	182	Fr.	Cincinnati, OH
36	Smith, Landon	FB	5-11	240	Sr.	Madison, MS
20	Smith, Orlando	RB	6-0	247	Jr.	Elmira, NY
5	Sturkie, Jermaine	SS	5-8	197	Sr.	Columbus, OH
81	Thomas, Isaac	DB	5-11	194	Fr.	Baker, FL
97	Trahan, Chris	DT	6-0	264	So.	Cincinnati, OH
17	Tucker, Chad	FS	6-0	195	Jr.	Cincinnati, OH
75	Uhl, Brian	C	6-5	295	Jr.	Cincinnati, OH
47	Vitovitz, David	FB	6-1	236	Jr.	Elyria, OH
55	Ward, Fred	DT	6-2	291	Sr.	Bellamy, AL
77	Ward, Kevin	DT	6-1	301	Jr.	Chantilly, VA
65	Wenz, Frank	C	6-4	274	So.	Marcy, NY
64	Wingrove, Bill	OL	6-6	257	Fr.	Englewood, FL

1997 Signees

NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	HOMETOWN
Archie, Chris	WR	6-4	196	Detroit, MI
Honorable mention all-state; All-Detroit; caught 14 passes for 286 yds. and two TDs.				
Augustus, Kenny	DL	6-3	275	Bolingbrook, IL
All-America choice as a sophomore at Joliet Junior College; recorded over 100 tackles with five quarterback sacks last season.				
Byrd, Vincent	OL	6-2	292	Junction City, KS
All-conference selection at Coffeyville Community College.				
Campbell, Chris	DL	6-4	225	Lakeland, FL
All-county; 53 tackles and six quarterback sacks as a senior.				
Daniels, Kwesi	LB	5-11	215	Brooklyn, NY
Two-time all-conference selection at Independence Community College; had 113 tackles as a sophomore.				
Dixon, Joe	OL	6-3	330	Columbus, OH
First-team all-state; Columbus Dispatch All-Metro.				
Dorsey, Dushawn	WR	6-2	170	Somerville, NJ
All-state; ended his career with 104 catches for 1,625 yds. and 25 TDs.				
Edwards, Sedrick	DL	6-8	290	Fort Myers, FL
Made 36 total tackles as a freshman in 1995 at Coffeyville CC; redshirted during the 1996.				
Forrest, Ted	OL	6-5	310	Houston, TX
College Sports of America Preseason All-America; all-city.				
Fuller, Bobby	CB	5-11	170	Lexington, NC
Honorable mention all-conference at Hutchinson Community College; had 52 total tackles and intercepted four passes.				
Garden, Lloyd	RB	5-11	225	Akron, OH
Three-time all-state; posted career totals of 878 carries for 5,250 yds. and 55 TDs; Tom Lemming's All-America.				
Grubb, Ted	DL	6-4	234	Hollywood, KS
Second team all-conference; made 115 tackles and 12 quarterback sacks as a sophomore.				
Hamilton, Joseph	LB	6-4	215	Columbus, OH
Honorable mention all-state; had 15 quarterback sacks as a senior.				
Harper, Eric	DB	5-11	204	McKeesport, PA
Recorded 110 total tackles as a sophomore at Hutchinson Community College.				
Jackson, A.J.	TE	6-4	245	Palatka, FL
Two-year starter at Fort Scott Junior College.				
Johnson, DeWayne	TE	6-3	235	Columbus, OH
Played only one year of football in high school; second team all-league; caught 12 passes for 240 yds. and a pair of TDs.				
Keck, Tinker	DB	6-1	193	Goodland, KS
Second-team NJCAA All-America; made 60 solo and 82 total tackles and five ints. as a sophomore.				
Kenner, Deontey	QB	6-2	180	Hopkinsville, KY
Completed 387 of 835 passes in his career for 7,046 yds. and 80 TDs; USA TODAY Honorable Mention All-America.				
Mammarella, Jason	K-P	6-1	190	Hollywood, FL
Third-team all-state.				
Powell, John	WR	6-2	175	St. Louis, MO
Two-year starter at wide receiver for Kemper CC; led the team with 27 receptions for 347 yds. and four TDs.				
Rockette, Anthony	TE	6-3	245	Water Valley, MS
Second-team all-state as a sophomore at Northwest Mississippi CC.				
Rosfield, Doug	OL	6-4	245	Cincinnati, OH
All-Southwest Ohio; Cincinnati Post All-City.				
Skillings, John	OL	6-5	290	Champaign, IL
First-team all-conference at DuPage CC.				
Thompson, Kirk	LB	6-2	220	Portsmouth, OH
Honorable mention all-state; led the team with 146 tackles, including four quarterback sacks.				
Wortman, Dan	LB	6-2	225	Mason, OH
Second-team all-state; led the team with 155 tackles last season.				

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (9)

WR	84	Cornelius Bonner (Jr., 1); 87 Jeff Burrow (So., 1)
LT	67	Jason Fabini (Sr., 3); 76 Chris Bell (So., 0)
LG	61	Joel Dolinski (Sr., 3); 63 Vince Byrd (Jr., 0)
C	75	Brian Uhl (Jr., 2); 70 Jason Lisek (So., 0)
RG	66	Ken Biggs (So., 1); 71 Matt Knutson (So., 1)
RT	78	Pierre Brilliant (Sr., 2); 79 Don Scheithe (So., 1)
TE	88	Josh Anderson (Jr., 2); 80 Ashley Hunt (Fr., 0)
QB	4	Chad Plummer (Jr., 2); 16 Brent Petrus (Sr., 2)
FB	36	Landon Smith (Sr., 1); 49 Eric Beal (Jr., 2)
RB	38	Daryl Royal (Sr., 3); 20 Orlando Smith (Jr., 1)
WR	83	Jason Collins-Baker (Fr., 0); 2 John Powell (Jr., 0)
K	12	Eric Richards (Sr., 3)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	92	Percy Evans (Jr., 2); 94 Ted Grubb (Jr., 0)
DT	99	John Kobalka (Sr., 3); 55 Fred Ward (Sr., 1)
DT	77	Kevin Ward (Jr., 2); 90 Deron Savage (Jr., 1)
DE	95	Derrick Ransom (Sr., 3); 93 David Jackson (Jr., 2)
OLB	48	Hassan Champion (Jr., 2); 39 Eddie Johnson (Fr., 0)
MLB	45	Phillip Curry (Sr., 3); 41 Rob Lucas (Jr., 2)
OLB	3	Brad Jackson (Sr., 3); 1 Lowery Cole (Sr., 1)
CB	19	Don McKnight (Jr., 2); 35 Freddy Smith (Fr., 0)
CB	21	Artrell Hawkins (Sr., 3); 40 Shawn Ferguson (Jr., 1)
SS	6	Eric Harper (Jr., 0); 5 Jermaine Sturkie (Sr., 3)
FS	9	Tinker Keck (Jr., 0); 46 Gerard Brayboy (Jr., 1)
P	43	Doug Johnson (Sr., 0)

(#) indicates number of returning starters
BOLD indicates returning starters
Number after class indicates letters won

Top Returning Leaders

Passing: Chad Plummer, 102-198-1335-8, 7 TDs
Rushing: Daryl Royal, 167 car., 853 yds., 3 TDs
Receiving: Daryl Royal, 17 rec., 184 yds., 1 TD
Scoring: Eric Richards, 13 FGs, 26 XP, 65 points
Punting: Doug Johnson, 2 punts, 47.0 avg.
Kicking: Eric Richards, 13-21 FGs, 26-26 XP
Tackles: Phillip Curry, 113, 57 solo
Sacks: Derrick Ransom, 6
Interceptions: Artrell Hawkins, 1 for 0 yards

1997 Schedule

Aug. 28	Tulsa
Sept. 6	@ Tulane
Sept. 20	Kansas
Sept. 27	@ Boston College
Oct. 4	Memphis
Oct. 11	UAB
Oct. 18	@ Houston
Oct. 25	@ Miami (OH)
Nov. 1	Southern Miss
Nov. 8	Louisville
Nov. 13	@ East Carolina

Rising Star

Robert Cooper was named team Newcomer of the Year and a freshman All-C-USA selection. Clearly the fastest and quickest of the Bearcat runners, the sophomore can continue to develop at a nice pace because of backfield depth. Look for Cooper to explode.

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by HERSCHEL NISSENSON

Marshall second-year coach Bob Pruett is excited about his team joining the Mid-American Conference. "I'm glad the MAC chose Marshall for the location of its championship game, too, and I hope we're in it."

Marshall and Northern Illinois are the expansion teams that make the 51-year old MAC a 12-team league. The Eastern and Western Division champions will meet in the first MAC championship game on Dec. 5 at Marshall University Stadium in Huntington, W. Va.

The MAC champion will then play in the inaugural Motor City Bowl in the Pontiac (Mich.) Silverdome on Dec. 26 against an at-large opponent.

akron

Akron is hoping it's true that you win with defense. The Zips return nine starters and 23 lettermen from a defense that ranked third in the Mid-American Conference last year, allowing 317.4 yards a game. The 4-7 record (3-5 in the MAC, tied for sixth) was significant improvement over the 2-9 record of 1995.

But while the 1996 defense was holding opponents to 24.5 points a game, the offense was mostly non-existent, scoring 15.9.

Senior linebacker Nate Boyd, who was in on 140 tackles last season, is the leader of the defense. The linebackers are deep enough for the coaches to try junior Nate Johnson in the secondary. If Johnson makes the switch, junior Eric Small or sophomore Brad King could fill the opening. Sophomore holdover George Cameron returns at the other outside linebacker spot.

Junior Andre McCray, an All-MAC candidate and a fierce hitter, leads the secondary. The returning cornerbacks are juniors George Germany and Jon Eaton.

Senior Tarik West and junior Jamey Bennett man the tackles, where sophomore Ron Smith has great potential.

On offense, sophomore quarterback Greg Gromek started the final four games and Akron won three of them. But his passing numbers were nothing to write home about. Experience could rectify that.

Seniors Chris Rooney and Jamie Reader are punishing fullbacks. Tailback is wide open, but sophomore Mike Lagasse proved to be an elusive runner when healthy, and redshirt freshman David Polk will get good look too.

Sophomore Willie Spencer, the opening-game quarterback, has moved to wide receiver. Junior Carl Whitt is the leading returning receiver with 14 catches for 237 yards. The rest of the receivers are young and untested.



University of Akron

Nate Boyd

Senior Chad Zgonc has the most experience at tight end. Junior Shane Ladner and senior Mark Reynolds could challenge Zgonc if their injuries have been repaired.

The offensive line blossomed during the final month of the '96 season and three starters appear solid — sophomore tackle Steve Hale, junior guard Kevin Kuntz and sophomore guard Dan Wessman. Junior Bill Hildebrand will challenge at either center or tackle, and sophomore Rex Pyles will push to fill a tackle spot.

Senior placekicker Jamie Stidham put half his kickoffs into the end zone and junior Mike Hayes punted for a 42.4-yard average. The Zips are looking for people to return kicks after finishing last in the MAC in punt returns.

The schedule doesn't do Akron any favors. Among the first four games are trips to Nebraska in the opener and LSU.

ball state

The good news for Ball State is that the Cardinals are the only Mid-American Conference school to play in two Las Vegas Bowls since the game was established in 1992. They lost both times, but Ball State has the best record in MAC games in the last four years (25-6-2).

The bad news is that only eight starters return — four on offense, four on defense.

Coach Bill Lynch might be able to put together a productive offense with the return of junior tailback LeAndre Moore and some strong blockers. The returning regulars are junior tackles Eric Lows and Joe Schmitt, junior tight end Dane Wheeler and junior fullback Mike Pickett. Wheeler caught only six passes last season.

Other returning lettermen up front are senior center John Cate, junior guard Matt Ehrhardt and senior tight end Brian VanDaele.

Moore also is the second-leading returning pass-catcher with 11. The No. 1 pass-catcher is sophomore wideout Adrian Reese (16 receptions, 15.4 average).

The defensive returnees are junior tackle Damon Hummel, senior outside linebacker Jeff Phelps, senior inside linebacker Howard Simms and senior strong safety Keyon Laws. Hummel was an all-conference first-team selection. Phelps led the team with three forced fumbles and four recoveries. Simms racked up 114 tackles.

There are plenty of experienced backups available to fill the openings on defense.

Ball State is pushing senior placekicker Brent Locklear as a candidate for the Lou Groza Award. Locklear had the nation's second-highest field goal success rate last year (10-of-11, 90.9 percent) and is 28-of-36 for his career.

Laws led the Cardinals in punt returns with an 18.9-yard average on 10 runbacks. He also was the top kickoff returner in 1995 and may reclaim that assignment.

One final note: In the past 11 seasons, all 117 players who have been with the team at least four years have been part of a championship and played in a bowl game.

bowling green

With seven starters returning on offense and nine on defense, the Falcons hope to rebound from back-to-back 3-5 MAC records. The offense needs retooling after averaging just 2.8 yards per rushing attempt, the lowest in coach Gary Blackney's tenure. The Falcons were held under 20 points in eight games and were outscored 240-176.

Bowling Green lost tailbacks Courtney Davis and Keylan Cates, who combined for 925 yards. The battle to replace them is underway between junior Robbie Hollis and senior Damien Platt. The fullback spot is wide open because Bud Rottinghaus left the team to concentrate on academics.

The coaches say junior quarterback Bob Niemet has to be more selective in his running opportunities to try and avoid injury. Bowling Green averaged 19.8 points with Niemet in the lineup and 11.4 without him.

Niemet was 83-of-191 (43.5 percent) for 1,129 yards and six touchdowns, with nine interceptions. Niemet's favorite targets are all back. Senior wide receivers Damron Hamilton and Terry Loville and junior tight end Tony Holcomb. Sophomore wideout Jeremy Dusho should see plenty of action.

The offensive line returns three starters — senior center John Kuck, sophomore guard Chad McCarthy and senior tackle Sam Hemke, who moves to guard. Senior

guard Dontay Hunter and sophomore tackle Mark Kautzman should be in the picture, along with redshirt freshman tackle Rob Fehrman. Kautzman was the first true freshman ever to start on the offensive line for Bowling Green.

Two starters return on the defensive line — junior nose guard Dan King and senior tackle Gardner Howard, but don't be surprised if they're beaten out by juniors Dana Johnson and Willie Watson. Redshirt freshman D.J. Durkin is the likely starter at defensive end.

The O'Neill brothers return at inside linebacker. Kevin, a senior, led the team in tackles (120) for the second year in a row and was Bowling Green's only first-team All-MAC selection. Joe, a sophomore, started nine games before suffering an ankle injury that required surgery. He is expected to be 100 percent. Redshirt freshman Chris Della Vella got most of the spring work with Joe O'Neill sidelined.

The outside positions will be manned by

MAC Predicted Order of Finish

East

1. Miami
2. Bowling Green
3. Marshall
4. Ohio
5. Akron
6. Kent

West

1. Toledo
2. Central Michigan
3. Eastern Michigan
4. Ball State
5. Western Michigan
6. Northern Illinois

mid-american conference



seniors Brian Manns and Todd Bush. Senior J.P. Mershon, an eight-game starter, will see lots of action off the bench.

In the secondary, senior strong safety Chioke Bradley moves to cornerback, joining senior Demetrius Carr. Junior Williams, a junior and the biggest hitter in the secondary, returns at free safety, and junior Morty Bryce, last year's nickel back, takes over at strong safety.

Junior punter Andy Pollock and his 41.7-yard average — fifth best in school history — return. So does sophomore placekicker Jason Strasser.

One final note: Bowling Green set an NCAA all-divisions record last year by losing only one fumble all season — on the 11th play of the opening game.

central michigan

When are 477.1 yards and 31.9 points a game not enough?

When your team finishes ninth in a 10-team league in total defense (424.9) and seventh in points allowed (25.2). The Chippewas finished 5–6 overall and fifth in the MAC at 4–4.

"I feel we played better at the end of last year," says coach Dick Flynn, who has seen the Chippewas go 9–13 since winning the MAC championship in 1994. "We return a lot of people on defense and we hope that experience gives us something to build upon."

Central Michigan returns its starting defensive line, which consists of three juniors — tackles C.J. Remmo and Jon

McCall and nose guard Calvin Massenberg — and should be tough to run against. Sophomore Gabe McMasters figures to start at defensive end as Central Michigan switches from a 5–2 to a 4–3 alignment.

Junior twins Jason and Jeremy Gold started at inside linebacker last year, but weren't productive. Senior Charlie Bush was limited in the spring while recovering from an ankle injury.

Sophomore Jerome Winston has the inside track at outside linebacker after making 32 tackles as a safety last season. Senior Jason Husband and junior Shawn Williams return at the corners. Williams led the Chippewas with 77 tackles.

The safety positions are not decided, although redshirt freshman Anthony Jones is the likely free safety. Eric Nance, a sophomore, and Chad Alexander, a junior, will be given a shot at cornerback and strong safety.

The big question mark on offense is at quarterback, where record-setting Chad Darnell graduated after throwing for 2,921 career yards and 22 touchdowns. Senior Tim Crowley, the backup, appeared in only three games. Sophomore Jeff Davis and redshirt freshmen Mark Loughhead and Pete Shepherd could challenge.

Whoever wins the job can hand off to junior all-conference tailback Silas Massey and throw to junior All-MAC flanker Reggie Allen and tight end Adam Simonson. Massey rushed for 1,544 yards and scored 16 touchdowns, and Allen set school single-season records with 66 receptions and 1,229 yards. He caught nine TD passes. Simonson caught 31 passes for 473 yards. Junior split end Bryan Schorman (53 catches, 811 yards, seven TDs) also returns.

Sophomore walk-on Jason Meyer could start at fullback. Jeff Angeli, a backup fullback, has been declared ineligible, but the Chippewas are high on incoming freshman Joe Fuller.

Central Michigan should maintain its tradition of good offensive lines. Returning starters are senior tackle Gary Glowacki, junior guard Gene Miller and senior guard Rollie Ferris, a second-team All-MAC pick. Junior tackle Doug Bontekoe and junior center Mike Cipa saw plenty of action.

The Chippewas return senior placekicker Casey Wilson and senior punter Ben Kroft. Wilson set a single-season record with 45

PATs and made 6-of-12 field goals. Kroft averaged 38.6 yards per punt. Allen and Massey return kicks.

The defense will have to be ready early. Central Michigan's second game is a visit to defending national champion Florida.

eastern michigan

After a 6–5 record in 1995 in Rick Rasnick's first year as head coach, the Eagles were hurt by injuries and slipped to 3–8 and a sixth-place tie in the Mid-American Conference at 3–5.

"There is no doubt that the 1996 season was a tough one for coaches and players," Rasnick says. "Losing a quarterback of Charlie Batch's caliber (season-ending ankle injury in the second game) was hard to overcome. We also lost our top defensive back, Rodney Nubin. But the chance to play a lot of our younger players for extended periods of time will only make our program stronger for the future."

Rasnick has eight returning starters on offense and seven on defense, in addition to Batch and Nubin. Batch was granted a sixth year of eligibility. He broke 12 school records in 1995, including touchdown passes (21), total yards (3,229) and passing yards (3,177) and finished fourth nationally in total offense (293.6 yards a game).

The other quarterback is no slouch. Walt Church stepped in as a true freshman when Batch went down, started the last nine games and earned MAC Co-Freshman of the Year honors. He set school single-game records with 62 passes and 450 passing yards against Central Michigan and threw for 2,151 yards on the season.

The top two tailbacks, seniors Mike Scott and Savon Edwards, also return after combining for 1,396 yards rushing. Edwards also was the second-leading receiver with 32 catches. Senior fullback Mark Crnkovic only carried the ball once, but his solid blocking opened many holes.

Senior tight end Pat Laughlin and junior wideout Ta'if Kumasi return, along with sophomore wide receivers Keijuan Douglas, Kenny Christian and Brandon Campbell. Douglas had perhaps the biggest impact with 21 catches for 199 yards and also was the leading punt returner in the MAC with 12 for 183 yards.

The offensive line returns three starters — junior tackles L.J. Shelton and Brian

Wilcox, both of whom started all 11 games, and senior guard Mencil Williams, who started 10. The two vacant offensive line positions are areas of concern.

Senior first-team All-MAC nose guard Lionel Dalton leads the defensive charge. Senior outside linebacker Avery Brown, the team's leading returning tackler with 100, led the MAC with 26 tackles for loss and had 11 sacks, both school records.

Other defensive starters returning include senior linebacker Jermaine Brooks, sophomore linebacker Clifton Robinson, senior cornerback Corey Baskin, junior cornerback Demetrius Johnson and senior free safety Terry Reed, who had 92 total tackles.

Add to the defensive mix the return of Nubin, a two-year starter at free safety before missing 1996, and the defense should be in good shape.

Junior Justin Ventura, honorable mention All-MAC, returns as the placekicker. Punter George Guzman decided not to return for his senior year, leaving that spot open. Baskin and Douglas return kicks. Douglas ran back six kickoffs for a 22.2-yard average.

kent

Kent has nowhere to go but up, and coach Jim Corrigan is confident that will happen.

The Golden Flashes are coming off a 2-9 campaign. They finished last (1-8) in the Mid-American Conference, capped by a 76-27 mauling at the hands of Western Michigan, which also won only two games.

Kent's strength is the offense, led by senior All-MAC tailback Astron Whatley and the record-setting combination of junior quarterback Todd Goebbel and junior wide receiver Eugene Baker.

Whatley has been Kent's leading rusher for the past three seasons and is the second-leading rusher in school history with 3,113 yards, including 1,132 a year ago, when he was second among MAC runners with 102.9 yards a game. For his career, Whatley has 24 100-yard games.

The fullback position has been questionable the past few years, but returns senior starter Joe Miller.

Goebbel is well on his way to rewriting Kent's career passing records after last year's 354 attempts, 198 completions, 2,427 yards and 19 TDs. Baker caught 69 passes and set single-season marks with 1,215 yards and 13 touchdowns. Against Western Michigan, he set school records with 14 catches for 243 yards.

"We have probably the best tailback and wide receiver in the league," Corrigan says.

Junior William Young and senior Mark Britt are the candidates to replace Lance Hansen at the other wide receiver spot. The top two tight end candidates are sophomore Jason Gavadza and junior college transfer Conrado Ayala.

The offensive line returns four starters, but depth is a concern. Senior center Bob Hallen and senior tackle Steve Zahursky are All-MAC candidates. The other returning starters are senior guard Brian Moore and junior guard Duvall Braxton.

The leading tacklers in each of the past two seasons return at linebacker. Roger Terry was tops (154) last year after missing the 1995 season with an injury. He tied for the conference lead with 13.6 tackles a game. Justin Sanford was second with 120 stops after recording a team-leading 136 in 1995. Sophomore Dave Holderbaum is the likely third starter. Sophomore Brad Hartman, who missed starting last season because of an injured knee, also returns.

The defensive line returns three starters in senior end Courtney Short, senior tackle Shawn Thompson and junior tackle Dejon Young.

At the end of last season three freshmen were starting in the secondary. Cornerback Benny Jones, strong safety Geoff Betts and free safety Gary McCullough are sophomores now. Junior college cornerback Wayne Shaw could step in somewhere.

Senior placekicker Joe Romano missed the 1996 campaign after off-season knee surgery. He returns to battle sophomore Matt Groff, who made 4-of-6 field goals and 24-of-28 PATs. Groff might replace the departed Roger Forgatsch as the punter.

Young and Whatley have proven to be effective kickoff returners. Baker is the top holdover punt returner.

marshall

Marshall, coming off a 15-0 season with a Southern Conference title and Division I-AA national championship, moves into Division I-A and the Mid-American Conference.

Marshall fielded a team with 11 All-Americans and 19 all-conference selections. The Thundering Herd won its four playoff games by an average of 34 points.

Although Marshall lost quarterback Eric Kresser, sophomore Chad Pennington, who redshirted when Kresser arrived last year, is more than able. Thrust into the lineup as a 1995 freshman, he completed 219-of-354 passes (61.9 percent) for 2,445 yards and 15 touchdowns, and was named Southern Conference Freshman of the Year.

Pennington is expected to be pushed for the quarterback job by senior Mark Zban,



Randy Moss

who transferred from Ohio State and has played a backup role the past two seasons. He started against West Virginia State last year and was 15-of-18 for 160 yards and three touchdowns.

Tailback Erik Thomas graduated after rushing for 1,296 yards, but sophomore Doug Chapman was the first Marshall freshman to rush for 1,000 yards (1,238) since 1979.

In addition, sophomores Llow Turner and Jason Balwanz turned some heads, averaging 7.6 and 5.8-yards-per-carry respectively.

Sophomore receiver Randy Moss caught 78 passes for 1,709 yards and 28 touchdowns. No other freshman in the history of college football ever caught more scoring passes. Moss also led the nation in kickoff returns, averaging 34.5 yards.

Marshall uses a three-wideout alignment and returns junior Jerrald Long, senior Mark Wicks and junior LaVorn Colclough, all of whom had productive seasons. Junior John White takes over full-time at tight end.

Gone from the offensive line are Aaron Ferguson, who won the Jacobs Blocking Trophy as the top offensive lineman in the Southern Conference, and two other starters. But a pair of senior All-Southern Conference selections, center John Wade and guard Brian Reed, do return.

Senior end B.J. Cohen was an All-American who recorded 113 tackles and tied for the team lead with nine sacks. Junior Paul Totten is the probable other end. Junior Ricky Hall returns at nose guard with sophomore Dewayne Lewis at tackle.

Senior middle linebacker Larry McCloud led the team in tackles in each of the last two seasons. He had 150 last year and led the Southern Conference with four fumble recoveries.

mid-american conference



Two starters are gone from the secondary, but senior rover Thomas Maxwell and senior cornerback Larry Moore are back. Senior cornerback B.J. Summers will battle junior Tim Dempsey, who missed almost all of the regular season with a broken arm. Sophomore free safety Rogers Beckett played extensively in a reserve role.

Junior Chris Hanson had an excellent 44.5-yard punting average. With the graduation of Tim Openlander, the Southern Conference's all-time kick scoring leader, Hanson will also handle the placekicking if he can beat out junior Chris O'Neal. Oddly enough, Hanson punts with his left foot and placekicks with his right.

Marshall's introduction into Division I-A may not be friendly — the first two opponents are West Virginia and Army, both on the road. The West Virginia game may be the most anticipated contest in the history of the state because the teams haven't met since 1923.

miami

There were three distinct seasons for the Miami Redskins in 1996. First came a 2-0 start, followed by a 2-5 stretch, capped by a 2-0 finish.

It amounted to an overall 6-5 record, including 6-2 and a second-place tie in the Mid-American Conference. Along the way Miami tied a school record by scoring nine touchdowns in a 64-6 season-opening rout of Kent State.

Sophomore running back Travis Prentice didn't start a game yet finished with 601 yards and 12 touchdowns (fifth best in

Miami history) and a 4.9-yards-per-carry average. He joins seven offensive starters and six defensive regulars. Senior fullback Jeremy Adkins started the last eight games, but carried the ball only once all season for no gain.

The offense revolves around senior quarterback Sam Ricketts, a strong, mobile two-year starter who ranks first in school history in touchdown passes (28). In his last 10 conference games, he has thrown for 15 TDs with just two interceptions and has completed 60 percent of his passes.

Perhaps the toughest hole to fill is at wide receiver where first-team All-MAC pick and team MVP Tremayne Banks has graduated. This year's receiving corps will be led by senior wideout Jay Hall. The other wide receiver position is up for grabs. Senior Damian Vaughn returns at tight end.

Three offensive line starters are led by senior guard Mike Bird, a two-time All-MAC selection. Returning with him are senior tackle Mark Sroka and junior guard Ted Stec. Center Matt Kordos and tackle Brian Vest move into the lineup as seniors.

The defense led the MAC and finished ninth nationally in scoring defense, yielding just 15.3 points a game. Heading the unit is junior outside linebacker JoJuan Armour, a second-team all-conference pick who was second on the team with 98 tackles.

Three of four defensive linemen return — senior end Chad Brightman and senior tackles Jason Havens and Patrice Morgan.

Miami's secondary led the MAC and ranked second nationally in pass efficiency defense after ranking No. 1 in that category in 1995. Senior cornerback Jamie Taylor returns after a season of 53 tackles and seven pass deflections that earned him first-team all-conference honors. The other returning starters are senior strong safety Jason Druso and sophomore free safety Bryan McCullough.

Junior placekicker John Scott was 10-of-12 on field goals and 18-of-19 on PATs. Punter Jason Cheney graduated with the second-best career average in school history (41.5) after averaging 42.0 last season.

Junior Jay Baker and sophomore Geofrey Bowman are the leading candidates to take over kickoff and punt returns.

The schedule is not easy with visits to Army and Virginia Tech smack in the middle of the conference slate. But don't forget

that Miami was the only team to defeat Big Ten champion Northwestern during the 1995 regular season.

northern illinois

Back to the MAC.

NIU was a MAC member from 1975-85, then played as an independent from 1986-92 and again in 1996 following a three-year hitch (1993-95) in the Big West Conference.

During his days as a player and assistant coach at Miami of Ohio and later as a Northern Illinois aide, coach Joe Novak was involved with five MAC title teams. But Northern Illinois figures to be a whipping boy after a 1-10 record in Novak's first season. "That was awful," Novak concedes. "We were bad."

The Huskies' lone win was 31-30 over Arkansas State, and they finished 105th nationally in scoring, 104th in total offense, 110th in rushing defense. Those gloomy stats were based on 111 teams in Division I-A last year.

The Huskies return five starters on offense and nine on defense, but the team will be young — 65 percent of the roster are freshmen or sophomores.

The tailback job will be a scrap between sophomores Mike Stokes and Mike Johnson and redshirt freshman Ricardo King. Fullback takes on a new dimension with 242-pound sophomore Mike Stack and 260-pound redshirt freshman Terrence Tate.

If nothing else, the Huskies had a balanced offense, averaging 133.7 yards on the ground and 134.2 in the air. The new quarterback will be sophomore Randall Foster, who had two starts and completed only 13-of-39 passes for 158 yards. Also contending will be redshirt freshman Justin Hollman and incoming 6-4 freshman Rob Harding, who threw for 3,796 yards and 21 touchdowns in his prep career.

Wide receiver Deon "Neon" Mitchell led the Huskies in just about everything — catches (36), receiving yards (524), all-purpose yards (1,281), kickoff returns (31) and return yardage (714); the last two figures are school records. Sophomore Rhasaan Smith is projected as the other wideout. Junior Bobby Reed takes over at tight end.

The offensive line returns four starters and averages 6-4 and 308 pounds. Senior guard Kent "Phone" Boothand and senior tackle Jamie MacDonald are All-MAC can-

didates. The other holdovers are junior Bill Wise at center and senior tackle Chris Thornton. Penciled in as the fifth starter is junior guard Mike Belmontez.

Novak likes the speed in a versatile secondary that features junior strong safety Patrick Stephen, junior backup Rayshon Jackson (the team's top returning tackler), junior cornerback Duane Hawthorne, senior cornerback William Triplett and senior free safety Aldarryl Jones.

The linebacking corps returns junior Perry Amoo and sophomore Mumin Muhammad at the outside spots. Senior Steve Smith, a 1995 starter, is back in the middle.

The defensive line has senior Will Ford and junior Orlando Bowen at end with sophomore Ebbie Parsons and senior Bill Simpson at tackle, although someone could be beaten out by junior Dan Stankowski. Incoming freshman Lamain Rucker, rated the No. 1 prospect in the Chicago Public League, could help immediately.

Junior placekicker Brian Clark and sophomore punter Kent Baker both return. Mitchell was the leading kickoff returner (23.0) and was second in punt returns.

ohio

Is Ohio University ready for that long-awaited winning season? The Bobcats' tasted .500 last year for the first time since 1982.

Ohio returns six starters on offense, including a one-two rushing punch of quarterback Kareem Wilson and fullback Steve Hookfin, both juniors. The Bobcats led the conference in rushing with a school-record 3,289 yards.

Eight starters return from the MAC's league-leading defense, which had three shutouts for the first time since 1963.

Ohio finished last in the MAC in passing yardage and plans to throw the ball more effectively, as well as just plain more.

Quarterback is in good hands with the return of the 5-7 Wilson, who earned MAC Offensive Player of the Year honors by rushing for 1,072 yards, a school record for a quarterback.

"Kareem has the ability to lead us to a championship," MAC Coach of the Year Jim Grobe says.

Junior Mike Orlando is the best passer in the program, and sophomore David Murphy arrived in Athens as one of the top prep quarterbacks in the state.

Fullback in the triple-option, double-slot (two halfbacks) offense is solid with Hookfin, a second-team All-MAC selection who led the Bobcats in rushing with 1,125

yards, scored nine times and became the first Ohio player in 21 years to rush for 100 yards in four consecutive games.

Junior Ewane Nanji returns at one halfback slot, primarily as a blocker. A candidate for the other halfback post is sophomore John Cosgrove, who may be the fastest player on the team.

Junior Damion Maxwell led the team with 17 receptions. Runner-up B.J. Franklin won't be back because he was kicked off the squad for violating team rules. The tight ends will be used more as receivers after not catching a pass last year. The leading candidates are sophomores Drew Dwyer and Brad Harper and redshirt freshman Ben Brinck.

The main task on offense is replacing four starters on the line. Honorable mention All-MAC guard Mike Solominsky, a junior, overcame a broken foot to start the last seven games and is the only holdover.

Top returnees on the defensive line include juniors Geno Walsh and Jeremy Beutler and sophomores Steve Collins, Steve Gaydosz and John Kraus. Walsh started as a freshman and played sparingly last season. Kraus started one game and may have the best chance of starting.

The linebackers and secondary all return. Junior Tom Carder and sophomore Mark Calgaro are the inside linebackers. When healthy, Carder is a fierce hitter and one of the best in the MAC. Sophomore Troy Sands was impressive until a season-ending calf injury in the fourth game. Junior Sid Hall may be the most talented player at this position.

Senior outside linebacker Andre Jackson is an all-conference candidate, and the other returning starter is sophomore Leigh Barbour.

The secondary could be the team's strongest area with the return of all four starters and two top reserves. Junior free safety Dennis Fitzgerald led the Bobcats with 120 tackles and earned second-team All-MAC honors. Senior strong safety Brandon Cole is a big-play defender, while the cornerback positions return senior Tevell Jones and junior Mark Stubbs. Jones led the team with four interceptions — he returned one 82 yards for a touchdown against Western Michigan — and 11 pass breakups. Stubbs is a two-year starter who has great speed to the ball.

Senior reserve Sean Williams excelled on special teams. He blocked four punts and helped the Bobcats set a school record with 218 kickoff return yards against East Carolina by returning seven for 178 yards.

Junior placekicker Brian Huston made 7-

of-11 field goal attempts but faces a stiff challenge from Greg Krauss, a highly regarded redshirt freshman. Krauss booted a 56-yard field goal in high school but missed all of 1996 with a leg injury. Senior punter Jon Beier averaged 37.0 yards.

toledo

During the 1990s, Toledo has led the Mid-American Conference in victories — and injuries.

The 1996 season was the third time in four years that coach Gary Pinkel had to reshuffle his lineup almost every game. Eleven starters went down, but the Rockets still finished 7-4 and 6-2 in MAC play for a second-place tie.

The 1996 medical report included 13 players who missed at least one game and 1997 didn't start out much better. Three players had their careers cut short due to injury or illness — senior tailback Sylvester Patton (knee), junior linebacker Antjuan Savage (concussions) and senior linebacker Rob Whitfield (chronic asthma).

Toledo is keeping its fingers crossed for senior tailback Wasean Tait, who gained a MAC-record 1,905 yards in 1995. He tore the patellar tendon and anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee in the opening game of 1996 and Toledo subsequently went from preseason favorite to afterthought. Three other tailbacks went down after him.

Tait has had four surgeries since the injury, but he is progressing ahead of schedule and hopes to play this season.

"If he is able to play it will be a great bonus," says Pinkel, whose six-year winning percentage of .634 (41-23-3) is the best among coaches who have stayed at Toledo for at least five years.

Toledo has thrived on offense for the past



Marcus Matthews

University of Toledo

mid-american conference

three years, setting 48 school records, but only five regulars return on that side of the ball compared to eight on defense.

Senior defensive tackle Jason Richards can take control of the line of scrimmage. Senior tackle Joey Jones and senior end Loren Burkey are all three-year starters and senior end James Ross started last year.

Two linebackers and two defensive backs also return. Senior outside linebacker Marcus Matthews had a team-high 102 tackles, including 16 for lost yardage. Junior Matt Vaillant returns at one of the inside positions. The other likely starters are sophomore Keith Travis outside and senior Joe Weaver inside.

The secondary returns senior cornerbacks Clarence Love and Rasche Sumpter. Love is the fastest player on defense, having run a 4.3 40. He has a 34-inch vertical leap and broke up eight passes last year. Senior Chris Holifield moves in at free safety.

The returning running backs are senior tailback Kevin Kidd and junior fullback Lem Reynolds. Kidd was last year's leading ground-gainer with 453 yards. Reynolds was used mostly as a blocker.

Junior Justin Wooley, who can play tailback and fullback, could be Toledo's premier running back. But he missed four games last year due to concussions and a broken thumb. When healthy, he rushed for 434 yards.

Junior Chris Wallace, whose career consists of appearances in eight games, is the likely quarterback. He threw only 12 passes last year, completing three. Pinkel doesn't seem too worried.

"Chris and (junior) Todd Riddle have both been in the program for some time and know our system," Pinkel says.

The Rockets lost top receiver James Spriggs, whose 754 yards were the most by a Toledo player since 1974. Returning is junior wideout Brock Kreitzburg, who was second with 36 catches for 383 yards. Senior Romain Davis takes over the other wide receiver spot. Junior Rick Scott is the likely tight end.

The offensive line returns a pair of All-MAC candidates in senior center James Bates and senior tackle Chris Williams. The other likely starters are junior tackle Colin Westrich, senior guard Mike Lenix and sophomore guard Greg Peters.

Junior placekicker Ryan Klaer returns

but record-setting punter Ty Grude must be replaced, probably by redshirt freshman Greg Jones.

Juniors Ray Curry and Mace Freeman return punts and kickoffs.

western michigan

When — if ever — was a coach fired after winning a game 76–27?

That's what happened to Western Michigan's Al Molde, who posted a record of 62–47–2 in his 10 years with the Broncos. Molde was tied with Bill Spaulding (1907–21) for the most wins in Western Michigan history. Unfortunately for Molde, his 1996 team was 0–9 before winning the last two games, and finished ninth in the Mid-American Conference at 2–6.

Goodbye.

The new man is Gary Darnell, who comes with impeccable credentials and who will forever be the answer to a trivia question: Who was the head coach at Florida before Steve Spurrier?

Darnell's last three stops have been at three of college football's premier programs — Florida (1988–89), assistant head coach and defensive coordinator at Notre Dame (1990–91) and assistant head coach (1992–93) and defensive coordinator (1994–96) at Texas. He also was head coach at Tennessee Tech from 1983–85.

Darnell has changed Western's defensive alignment from a 4–4 to a 4–3 and likes the speed on that side of the ball, especially in the front seven.

Western Michigan returns six starters on offense and seven on defense. The only letterman running back is sophomore Robert Hatch, who gained 182 yards and averaged 3.1 a carry last year.

Expect the Broncos to put the ball in the air with sophomore Tim Lester at quarterback. Last season, Lester completed a school-record 203 passes for 2,189 yards and 14 touchdowns and shared MAC Freshman of the Year honors. However, on the receiving end, there is not a single letterman returning.

Sophomore Jake Moreland returns at tight end after catching 28 passes for 206 yards and a touchdown. Four members of the interior offensive line also are back and Darnell expects to see improvement in that area.

Senior Joe Lewandowski has earned All-



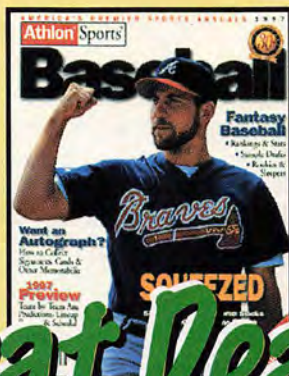
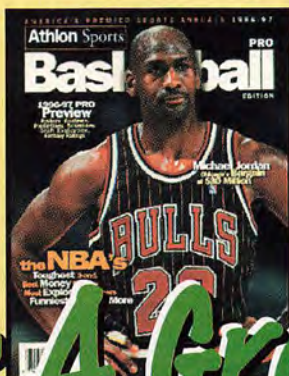
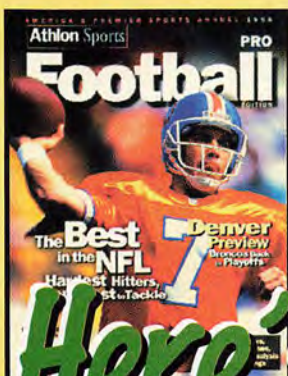
MAC second-team honors the past two years. He is joined by junior tackle Jason Cavanaugh, senior guard Jim DeWald and junior guard J.K. Hachnle. Sophomores Charlie Knapp at tackle and Steve Wark at guard lend depth.

On defense, 22 lettermen return, led by senior two-year regulars Rick Lucas at outside linebacker and Heron O'Neal at cornerback. The front line was hit hardest by graduation, leaving junior tackle Dan Falcon as the only returning starter from last year. Other lettermen are senior end Ryan Bauer, sophomore end Tom Rozema, junior end Dane Sexton, junior tackle Nate Wolkow and sophomore tackle Jeremy Johnson.

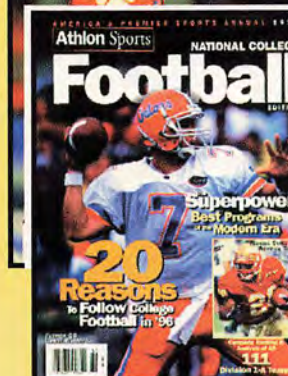
Western Michigan will use a three-linebacker alignment, and three starters are back from last year's foursome — Lucas, senior Steve Roon and junior Reggie Thompson. The backups should come from sophomores Brian Gatch, Scott Niles and Christian Cote, senior John Quelvog and juniors Todd Whitaker and Bill Chopp.

Besides O'Neal, the secondary returns senior cornerback Tarrance McEvans and sophomore cornerback Eric Nunlee. Seeking playing time are sophomores Calvin Harley and William Reed and senior Robert Kelly.

Both kickers return, but neither has outstanding numbers. Sophomore Louis Forbrich made 4-of-10 field goals, including a 49-yarder, while senior punter Zak Kemp averaged 37.7 yards a kick. All the kick returners are gone.



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036 Chicago Bears	073 Chicago White Sox	505 Cleveland Cavaliers
037 Cincinnati Bengals	074 Cincinnati Reds	507 Detroit Pistons
039 Dallas Cowboys	075 Cleveland Indians	509 Indiana Pacers
041 Denver Broncos	095 Colorado Rockies	510 L.A. Clippers
040 Detroit Lions	076 Detroit Tigers	510 L.A. Lakers
042 Green Bay Packers	077 Houston Astros	511 Milwaukee Bucks
043 Houston Oilers	078 Kansas City Royals	512 Minnesota Twolves
060 Indianapolis Colts	079 L.A. Dodgers	513 New Jersey Nets
069 J'ville Jaguars	094 Florida Marlins	513 New York Knicks
044 Kansas City Chiefs	080 Milwaukee Brewers	514 San Francisco
046 Miami Dolphins	081 Minnesota Twins	514 Sacramento Kings
059 Minnesota Vikings	093 Montreal Expos	515 Philadelphia 76ers
048 New Eng. Patriots	082 New York Mets	516 Phoenix Suns
049 New Orleans Saints	082 New York Yankees	517 San Antonio Spurs
047 New York Giants	083 Pittsburgh Pirates	517 Dallas Mavericks
047 New York Jets	084 Philadelphia Phillies	518 Utah Jazz
053 Oakland Raiders	085 St. Louis Cardinals	518 Denver Nuggets
051 Philadelphia Eagles	086 San Fran. Giants	519 Washington Bullets
050 Pittsburgh Steelers	086 Oakland Athletics	520 Seattle SuperSonics
052 San Diego Chargers	089 San Diego Padres	521 Houston Rockets
053 San Fran. 49ers	090 Toronto Blue Jays	522 Portland Trailblazers
054 Seattle Seahawks		523 Orlando Magic
099 St. Louis Rams		524 Toronto Raptors
056 Tampa Bay Bucs		525 Vancouver Grizzlies
057 Washington Redskins		

College Football
007 Alabama
028 Arizona
021 Arkansas
033 Brigham Young
061 Boston College
015 Clemson
006 Colorado
033 Colorado State
008 Florida
066 Florida State
009 Georgia
063 Hawaii
024 Illinois
026 Indiana
025 Iowa
010 Kentucky
017 Michigan
016 Minnesota
065 Miami
023 Michigan
025 Minnesota
012 Mississippi
003 Missouri
002 Nebraska
014 North Carolina
030 Northern California
024 Northwestern
022 Ohio
001 Oklahoma
031 Oregon
098 Penn State
034 Pittsburgh
026 Purdue
063 San Diego
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061 Syracuse
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016 Virginia
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419 Missouri
420 Mississippi
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422 North Carolina
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429 Villanova
430 Pittsburgh
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431 South Carolina
431 Clemson
432 Tennessee
433 South Texas
435 Utah
436 Virginia
437 Washington
437 Oregon
438 Wisconsin
440 Cincinnati
440 Kentucky
441 Louisville

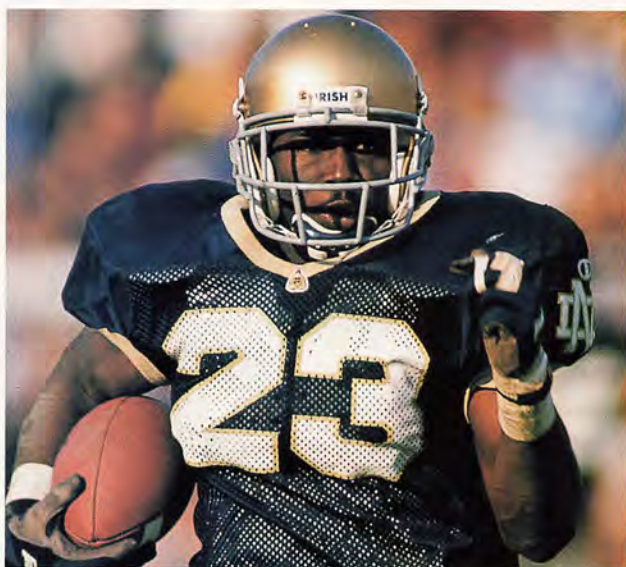
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There is less talk of a national championship at Notre Dame than in previous years, but there is a more relaxed atmosphere surrounding the players practicing under laid-back Bob Davie.

Davie, the 26th head coach of the Fighting Irish, successor to Lou Holtz, candidly admits Notre Dame's 23-11-1 record over the last three seasons may be acceptable at some schools, but it falls far short of what used to be the perennial standard under the Golden Dome.

In a massive rebuilding year on defense, Davie hesitates to look beyond one game at a time, indeed one play at a time.



Autry Denson

"You almost feel compelled at Notre Dame every year to say, 'Well, our goal is to win the national championship.' If you're talking about being realistic, I'm not comfortable to say that," Davie confesses about the upcoming campaign.

quarterbacks

Ron Powlus returns for a fifth year with a new offense designed to take advantage of his drop-back passing abilities, without forcing him to run on the roll or execute Holtz's bread-and-butter option play. Former Purdue coach Jim Colletto, whom Davie hired as offensive coordinator, instituted a five-step, seven-step and shotgun passing game that has Powlus beaming over the possibilities.

"Off the charts," is the way Powlus measures his anticipation. "I don't think I've been this excited since my freshman year."

Injuries and an offensive system in which he was a misfit have hindered Powlus all his career, but he gives Davie a rock on which to build an offense behind an experienced line. Powlus owns the Notre Dame career touchdown passing record

and has thrown just 20 interceptions in 671 attempts, clearly No. 1 in that category as well.

Davie plans to use junior Jarious Jackson, an option specialist, in short-yardage situations and to develop him as a steady backup, although Jackson's passes are sometimes errant and unpredictable.

running backs

Junior Autry Denson is the only returning running back with substantial experience. He is productive and efficient, joining Allen Pinkett as the only players in Irish history to break the 1,000-yard rushing mark in their sophomore seasons. Denson has elusiveness but lacks break-away speed; he gets through the line of scrimmage but can be caught from behind.

Incoming freshmen Tony Driver and Cooper Rego, two Parade Magazine high school All-Americans, are being counted on to add the sizzle at the tailback position.

Junior fullback Jamie Spencer, a late-season starter in '96, has a chance to emerge. At around 250 pounds, Spencer has balance and hands to complement a short passing game, but he has yet to show toughness on the field. Spencer will be pushed by sophomore Joey Goodspeed, who has a linebacker's mentality and may yet end up on defense.

receivers

Senior wide receiver Malcolm Johnson has 6-5 size but only 25 career catches, all last year. Junior Shannon Stephens has speed and sophomore Raki Nelson has very good hands and play-making skills, but both chafed under Holtz's tight-fisted style.

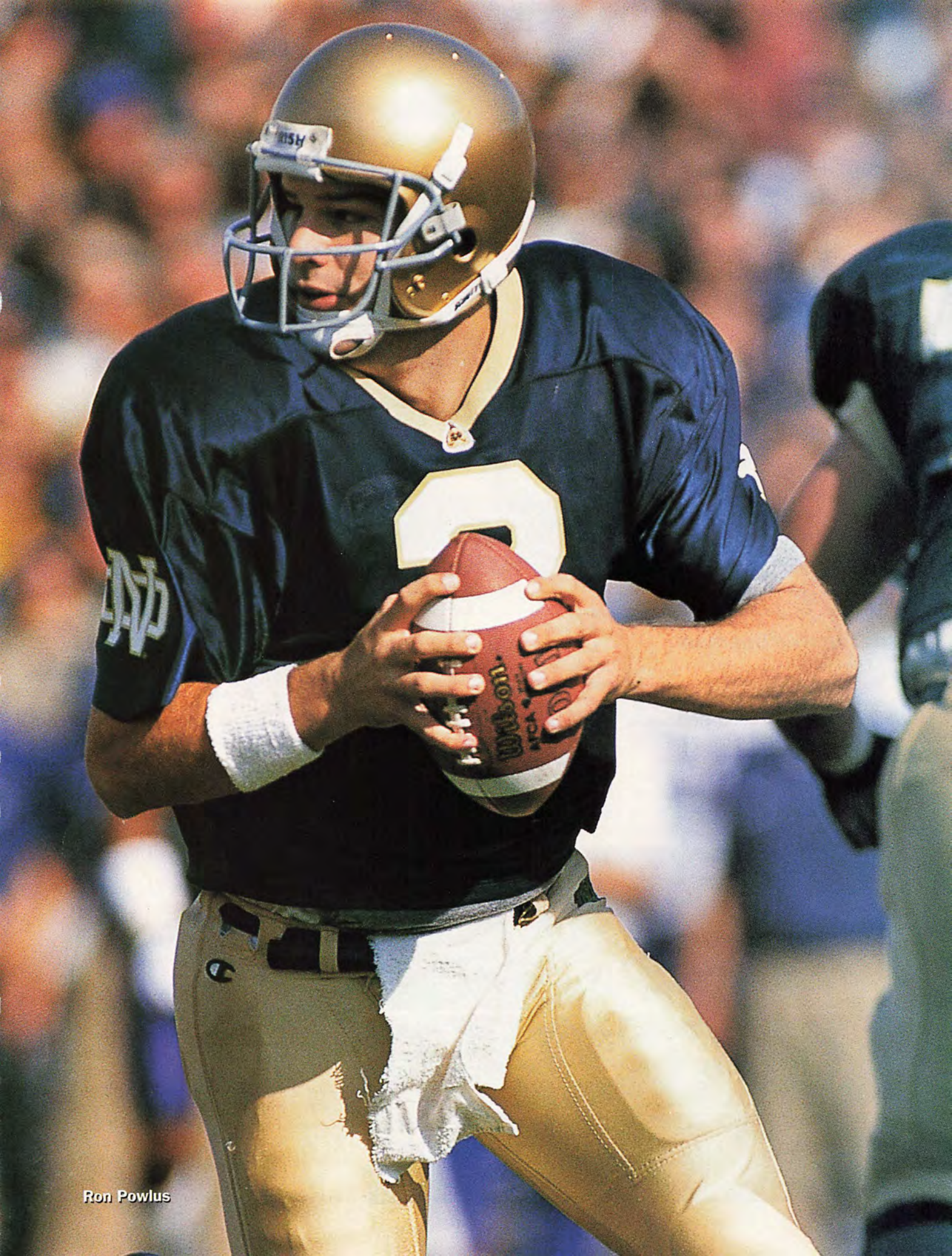
Junior Bobby Brown averaged 42 yards a catch last season, but had only two of them. Freshman Joey Getherall has speed but is slight of build and other big-name programs took a pass on him.

The graduation of Pete Chryplewicz leaves junior John Cerasani, who is tough and physical, but has hands of brick and only one career catch, at tight end. Sophomore Dan O'Leary is a more natural receiver and even worked at wide receiver last season. Highly regarded freshman Jabari Holloway is a raw talent and could develop into a very good tight end over time.

offensive linemen

The offensive line is the strength and anchor of the Irish. The challenge for offensive coordinator Colletto, who also serves as line coach, will be to school them in the art of pass-blocking.

Center Rick Kaczinski, strong-side tackle Mike Doughty and quick tackle Chris Clevenger return for a fifth year. Junior guard Mike Rosenthal, coming off shoulder surgery, could be an All-American. Juniors Jerry Wisne and Alex



Ron Powlus



Allen Rossum

Joe Cool's Finest Day



On Jan. 1, 1979, in bone-chilling cold, quarterback Joe Montana engineered a 35-34 win over Houston in the Cotton Bowl that many consider the greatest comeback in Irish history. Having spent the third quarter in the locker room with hypothermia, Montana returned to captain a rescue mission that saw Notre Dame put 23 points on the board in the final 7:37, erasing a 34-12 Houston lead.

which to choose his inside linebackers, but only junior Bobby Howard has any experience to speak of. The other starter will come from among senior Bill Mitoulas, a special-teams stalwart, juniors Jimmy Friday and Joe Thomas, and sophomores Ronnie Nicks and Antwoine Wellington.

defensive backs

Mattison hopes an experienced secondary will help his men up front play a blitzing, eight-man-in-the-box scheme. Senior Allen Rossum, a blazer, anchors the unit at cornerback. Senior Ivory Covington and sophomore Deveron Harper will split time on the other side.

28

In the 11-year reign of Lou Holtz, Notre Dame ran back kickoffs or punts for touchdowns 28 times, while not allowing a punt or kick return for a TD since Holtz's first year with the Irish.

Sophomore strong safety Benny Guibaux is good against the run but needs to sharpen his pass coverage. He will be pushed by junior A'Jani Sanders, returning from an injury.

Davie prefers a tall secondary and has senior Jarvis Edison and sophomore Deke Cooper, both about 6-3, at free safety. Cooper was thrown into battle as a freshman and picked off three enemy aerials as a part-time starter.

specialists

Junior Hunter Smith is a reliable punter, but it's been five years since the Irish have had a consistent placekicker. Bungled extra points and missed chip shots have been costly. Senior Scott Cengia, junior Kevin Kopka and sophomore Jim Sanson all want the job. Kopka has the strongest leg and should get the nod if his accuracy stands up.

Rossum led the nation in punt returns and brought back three for touchdowns.

Mueller are game-tested guards, as is junior Tim Ridder at tackle.

defensive linemen

First-year defensive coordinator Greg Mattison, fresh from Michigan, is rebuilding a front seven that lost five of its starters. To compensate for a lack of size, Mattison promises a new, one-gap scheme with an eight-man front and more blitzing.

Fifth-year senior Melvin Dansby is being counted on at tackle, but he is coming off knee surgery. Junior Antwon Jones moves up at nose guard and senior Corey Bennett,

a steady backup, will line up at end. Junior Lamont Bryant, a pass-rush specialist, takes over at rush end.

Senior Kurt Belisle, junior Shelton Jordan and sophomore Brad Williams are all potential starters.

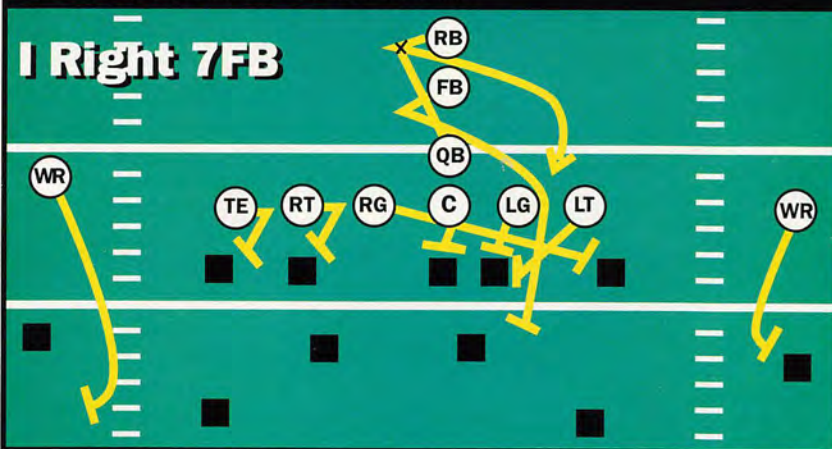
linebackers

Junior Kory Minor enters his third year as a starter and the leader of the linebacking unit at his outside position. Minor is quick and smart, can cover underneath, yet is explosive enough to blitz.

Mattison has plenty of bodies from

Fighting Irish Critical Play

This is new offensive coordinator Jim Colletto's favorite misdirection play to offset a defense shifted to the tight end side.



A photograph of a weathered wooden fence with vertical slats. In the foreground, there are various flowers including red tulips, yellow daffodils, and pink pansies. The background shows green trees and a blue sky with clouds.

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1997 Notre Dame Roster

1996 Record: 8-3

Head Coach:
Bob Davie

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN	NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	CL.	HOMETOWN
28	Barry, Ken	FB	6-0	221	Sr.	Berkeley, MO	59	Kunz, Matthew	ILB	6-0	215	Sr.	Las Vegas, NV
61	Beeler, John	ILB	6-0	229	Sr.	Jacksonville, FL	26	Lafayette, Lee	CB	5-9	189	So.	Hopkins Park, IL
56	Belisle, Kurt	DE	6-2	266	Sr.	Bradley, IL	90	Legree, Lance	NG	6-1	271	So.	St. Stephen, SC
95	Bennett, Corey	DE	6-1	253	Sr.	Doraville, GA	36	Lynch, Tim	CB	5-9	177	Sr.	Oak Lawn, IL
68	Brennan, Matt	T	6-6	274	So.	Mobile, AL	45	McCarthy, Chris	K	5-11	205	Sr.	Arlington, VA
88	Brown, Bobby	SE	6-3	185	Jr.	Lauderhill, FL	64	Merandi, John	C	6-2	272	So.	Blue Jay, CA
53	Bryant, Lamont	DE	6-3	243	Jr.	Georgetown, SC	4	Minor, Kory	OLB	6-1	234	Jr.	LaVerne, CA
12	Cengia, Scott	K	5-10	181	Sr.	Melbourne, FL	47	Mitoulas, Bill	ILB	6-1	225	Sr.	Toronto, ON
89	Cerasani, John	TE	6-4	255	Jr.	Schaumburg, IL	74	Mowl, Rob	G	6-5	294	So.	Pittsburgh, PA
8	Chappell, Eric	QB	6-4	213	So.	Montgomery, AL	52	Mueller, Alex	G	6-6	270	Jr.	Ellicott City, MD
99	Ching, Jason	DE	6-3	235	So.	Honolulu, HI	92	Mulvena, Bryan	OLB	6-1	221	Jr.	Tucson, AZ
75	Clevenger, Chris	T	6-7	312	Sr.	Wichita, KS	9	Nelson, Raki	FL	5-11	181	So.	Harrisburg, PA
1	Cooper, Deke	FS	5-3	209	So.	Evansville, IN	34	Nicks, Ronnie	ILB	6-0	222	So.	Kilgore, TX
14	Covington, Ivory	CB	6-0	169	Sr.	Decatur, GA	86	O'Leary, Dan	TE	6-4	243	So.	Westlake, OH
51	Dansby, Melvin	DT	6-4	276	Sr.	Birmingham, AL	83	Orr, Justin	TE	6-2	233	Sr.	Minooka, IL
81	Dawson, Lewis	WR	5-11	186	So.	Federal Way, WA	50	Payne, David	C	6-0	281	Jr.	Baltimore, MD
23	Denson, Autry	TB	5-10	184	Jr.	Lauderhill, FL	54	Petitgout, Luke	T	6-6	287	Sr.	Georgetown, DE
84	Denvir, Mike	TE	6-4	243	Sr.	Hinsdale, IL	35	Phelps, Robert	CB	6-0	189	Sr.	N. Richland Hills, TX
73	Doughty, Mike	T	6-7	303	Sr.	Lakeville, MN	3	Powlus, Ron	QB	6-3	225	Sr.	Berwick, PA
30	Edison, Jarvis	FS	6-4	221	Sr.	Bay City, TX	37	Rice, Kevin	FB	6-0	200	Sr.	Burr Ridge, IL
40	Farrell, Brendan	SS	5-10	215	So.	Fairport, NY	70	Ridder, Tim	G	6-7	298	Jr.	Omaha, NE
41	Ferrer, Joe	DE	6-2	230	Jr.	Casselberry, FL	46	Robinson, Benjamin	WR	6-2	206	Jr.	Saratoga, CA
13	Friday, Jimmy	ILB	6-2	227	Jr.	Missouri City, TX	79	Rosenthal, Mike	G	6-7	315	Jr.	Granger, IN
69	Gandy, Mike	DT	6-4	264	So.	Garland, TX	15	Rossum, Allen	CB	5-8	179	Sr.	Dallas, TX
97	Glass, Eric	DT	6-4	220	So.	Howey, FL	87	Rule, Mark	WR	6-2	209	Jr.	Chagrin Falls, OH
24	Goode, Ty	CB	5-11	184	Sr.	Lincoln, NE	5	Sanders, A'Jani	SS	5-11	188	Jr.	Houston, TX
45	Goodspeed, Joey	FB	6-0	225	So.	Montgomery, IL	19	Sanson, Jim	K	5-9	179	So.	Scottsdale, AZ
65	Griesbach, Matt	G	6-1	258	Sr.	Tulane, CA	93	Scott, B.J.	DT	6-3	267	So.	Brookville, IN
38	Grimm, Paul	CB	5-9	170	Sr.	Coral Springs, FL	16	Shingler, John	QB	6-1	230	Jr.	Wilmington, NC
2	Guilbeaux, Benny	SS	6-1	207	Jr.	Opelousas, LA	33	Sicuso, Phil	SS	5-11	175	Jr.	Hopkinton, MA
10	Harper, Deveron	CB	5-11	185	So.	Orangeburg, SC	17	Smith, Hunter	P	6-2	211	Jr.	Sherman, TX
72	Hires, Leon	G	6-4	287	So.	Bradenton, FL	37	Spencer, Jamie	FB	6-1	248	Jr.	Monroe, LA
27	Howard, Bobbie	ILB	5-10	228	Jr.	Rand, WV	78	Spickelmier, Jon	C	6-3	274	Sr.	Jacksonville, FL
7	Jackson, Jarious	QB	6-1	219	Jr.	Tupelo, MS	21	Stephens, Shannon	FL	5-9	175	Jr.	Houston, TX
11	Johnson, Jay	FL	6-0	186	So.	Starkville, MS	32	Stokes, Clement	TB	6-0	205	Sr.	Washington, D.C.
6	Johnson, Malcolm	SE	6-5	213	Sr.	Washington, D.C.	12	Strayhorn, Mario	OLB	6-1	214	Jr.	Cincinnati, OH
85	Jones, Antwon	NG	6-3	267	Jr.	Piqua, OH	49	Thomas, Joe	ILB	6-2	223	Jr.	Dallas, TX
96	Jones, Jim	NG	6-2	280	So.	Chicago Ridge, IL	22	Vickers, Jay	TB	5-11	218	So.	Tallahassee, FL
55	Jordan, Shelton	DE	6-3	250	Jr.	Opelousas, LA	67	Wagner, John	T	6-7	320	Jr.	Cheshire, CT
20	Joyner, Byron	FS	6-1	188	Jr.	Louisville, KY	60	Wellington, Antwoine	ILB	6-0	237	So.	Memphis, TN
57	Kaczinski, Rick	C	6-4	258	Sr.	Erie, PA	77	Williams, Brad	DT	6-4	266	So.	Orange, CA
20	Kopka, Kevin	K	5-7	214	Jr.	Hollywood, FL	71	Wisne, Jerry	G	6-6	295	Jr.	Tulsa, OK

1997 Signees

NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	HOMETOWN
Dansby, Kevin	LB	6-2	210	Birmingham, AL
USA Today Honorable Mention All-America; had 171 tackles, six sacks and three ints. as a senior.				
Denman, Anthony	RB-LB	6-3	205	Rusk, TX
Rushed for 1,250 yds. and 12 TDs as a senior; accounted for 85 tackles on defense in '96; all-area.				
Driver, Tony	TB	6-3	205	Louisville, KY
Parade and USA Today All-American; ranked as fifth best prospect nationally by Chicago Sun-Times; rushed 267 times for 1,491 yds. and 18 TDs as a senior.				
Getherall, Joey	WR	5-9	165	LaPuente, CA
Caught 48 passes for 1,162 yds. and 12 TDs as a senior.				
Holloway, Jabari	TE	6-4	235	Tyrone, GA
USA Today Honorable Mention All-America; Atlanta Journal-Constitution Georgia Top 50; caught 24 passes for 498 yds. as a senior.				
Holmes, Hugh	LB	6-2	210	Kissimmee, FL
Made 136 tackles as a senior; Florida District 6 player of the year.				
Irons, Grant	LB	6-5	225	Woodlands, TX
USA Today All-American; Dial Scholar-Athlete Award; ranked as 15th best prospect nationally by Chicago Sun-Times; made 92 tackles as a senior.				
Israel, Ron	DB	6-1	175	Haddon Heights, NJ
USA Today Honorable Mention All-America; made 104 tackles and eight ints. as a senior.				
Jordan, John	OL	6-0	260	Brooklyn, NY
Team MVP; All-New England.				
Kustok, Zak	QB	6-2	190	Orland Park, IL
Threw for more than 900 yds. and seven TDs in injury-plagued senior season.				
Levy, Darcey	RB	6-2	195	Denver, CO
Rushed for 1,453 yds. and 27 TDs as a senior.				
Murray, Jason	RB	6-2	235	Belle Vernon, PA
USA Today Honorable Mention All-America; rushed for 1,692 yds. and 20 TDs as a senior.				
Rego, Cooper	TB	5-9	185	Montvale, NJ
Parade All-America; USA Today Second-team All-America; Gatorade Player of the Year in New Jersey; rushed for 2,442 yds. and 35 TDs as a senior.				
Robin, Casey	OL	6-7	270	Covington, LA
All-district pick in '96 as team's outstanding lineman.				
Smith, Justin	WR	6-1	185	St. Petersburg, FL
Caught 18 passes for 460 yds. and six TDs as a senior.				
Teasdale, John	TE	6-4	255	Kansas City, MO
USA Today Honorable Mention All-America; all-state; caught 13 passes for 204 yds. and two TDs in '96.				
Vollers, Kurt	OL	6-7	275	Anaheim, CA
USA Today Honorable Mention All-America; rated 38th nationally among offensive prospects by The Sporting News.				
Williams, Brock	DB	5-11	175	Hammond, LA
Atlanta Journal-Constitution SuperSouthern 100; had 102 tackles and five ints. as a senior.				
Wisne, Andy	DL	6-5	255	Jenks, OK
Had 97 tackles and six sacks as a senior; all-state.				

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

SE	6	Malcolm Johnson (Sr., 2); 88 Bobby Brown (Jr., 1)
LT	75	Chris Clevenger (Sr., 3); 67 John Wagner (Jr., 0)
LG	71	Jerry Wisne (Jr., 1); 70 Tim Ridder (Jr., 1)
C	57	Rick Kaczinski (Sr., 2); 78 Jon Spickelmier (Sr., 2)
RG	79	Mike Rosenthal (Jr., 2); 52 Alex Mueller (Jr., 1)
RT	73	Mike Doughty (Sr., 3); 54 Luke Petitgout (Sr., 1)
TE	89	John Cerasani (Jr., 1); 86 Dan O'Leary (So., 0)
QB	3	Ron Powlus (Sr., 3); 7 Jarious Jackson (Jr., 1)
FB	33	Jamie Spencer (Jr., 1); 45 Joey Goodspeed (So., 1)
TB	23	Autry Denson (Jr., 2); 32 Clement Stokes (Sr., 0)
WR	21	Shannon Stephens (Jr., 1); 9 Raki Nelson (So., 1)
K	12	Scott Cengia (Sr., 2); 20 Kevin Kopka (Jr., 1)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	53	Lamont Bryant (Jr., 1); 41 Joe Ferrer (Jr., 0)
DT	51	Melvin Dansby (Sr., 3); 77 Brad Williams (So., 1)
NG	85	Antwon Jones (Jr., 1); 90 Lance Legree (So., 0)
DE	95	Corey Bennett (Sr., 3); 56 Kurt Belisle (Sr., 2)
LB	4	Kory Minor (Jr., 2); 12 Mario Strayhorn (Jr., 0)
LB	27	Bobbie Howard (Jr., 2); 49 Joe Thomas (Jr., 1)
LB	13	Jimmy Friday (Jr., 1); 47 Bill Mitoulas (Sr., 3)
CB	15	Allen Rossum (Sr., 3); 10 Deveron Harper (So., 1)
CB	14	Ivory Covington (Sr., 3); 24 Ty Goode (Sr., 1)
SS	2	Benny Guilbeaux (Jr., 1); 5 A'Jani Sanders (Jr., 1)
FS	30	Jarvis Edison (Sr., 2); 1 Deke Cooper (So., 1)
P	17	Hunter Smith (Jr., 2)

(#) indicates number of returning starters
BOLD indicates returning starters
Number after class indicates letters won

Top Returning Leaders

Passing: Ron Powlus, 133-232-1942-4, 12TDs
Rushing: Autry Denson, 202 car., 1179 yds., 8 TDs
Receiving: Malcolm Johnson, 25 rec., 449 yds., 2 TDs
Scoring: Autry Denson, 11 TDs, 60 points
Punting: Hunter Smith, 44 punts, 43.3 avg.
Kicking: Jim Sanson, 6-9 FGs, 39-45 XP
Tackles: Benny Guilbeaux, 62, 44 solo
Sacks: Kory Minor, 8
Interceptions: Benny Guilbeaux, 4 for 42 yards

1997 Schedule

Sept. 6	Georgia Tech
Sept. 13	@ Purdue
Sept. 20	Michigan State
Sept. 27	@ Michigan
Oct. 4	@ Stanford
Oct. 11	@ Pittsburgh
Oct. 18	USC
Oct. 25	Boston College
Nov. 1	Navy
Nov. 15	@ LSU
Nov. 22	West Virginia
Nov. 29	@ Hawaii

Rising Star

Freshman Tony Driver, a consensus high school All-American from Louisville, Ky., makes running and catching the ball look effortless, at times. He could develop into the kind of player former Irish great Ricky Watters was, a game-breaker from either tailback or wide receiver.

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* Home game

ACC

CLEMSON CLEMSON S.C. (7-5)	DUKE DURHAM, N.C. (0-11)	FLORIDA STATE TALLAHASSEE, FLA. (11-1)	GEORGIA TECH ATLANTA, GA. (5-6)	MARYLAND COLLEGE PARK, MD. (5-6)	NORTH CAROLINA CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (10-2)	N.C. STATE RALEIGH, N.C. (3-8)	VIRGINIA CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA. (7-5)	WAKE FOREST WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (3-8)
S. 6 APPALACHIAN ST.*	S. 6 N.C. STATE*	S. 6 SOUTHERN CAL	S. 6 NOTRE DAME	S. 6 OHIO*	S. 6 INDIANA*	A. 30 SYRACUSE	S. 4 AUBURN*	S. 6 NORTHWESTERN*
S. 13 N.C. STATE	S. 13 NORTHWESTERN	S. 13 MARYLAND*	S. 20 WAKE FOREST	S. 13 NORTH CAROLINA*	S. 13 STANFORD*	S. 6 DUKE	S. 13 RICHMOND*	S. 13 EAST CAROLINA
S. 20 FLORIDA STATE*	S. 20 ARMY*	S. 20 CLEMSON	S. 27 CLEMSON*	S. 20 FLORIDA STATE*	S. 20 MARYLAND	S. 13 CLEMSON*	S. 27 NORTH CAROLINA	S. 20 GEORGIA TECH*
S. 27 GEORGIA TECH	S. 27 NAVY*	O. 4 MIAMI*	O. 4 BOSTON COLLEGE	S. 27 TEMPLE	S. 27 VIRGINIA*	S. 20 N. ILLINOIS*	O. 4 WAKE FOREST*	S. 27 N.C. STATE*
O. 4 TEXAS-EL PASO*	O. 4 MARYLAND	O. 11 DUKE	O. 11 N.C. STATE*	O. 4 DUKE*	O. 4 TEXAS CHRISTIAN	S. 27 WAKE FOREST	O. 11 CLEMSON	O. 4 VIRGINIA
O. 11 VIRGINIA*	O. 11 FLORIDA STATE*	O. 18 GEORGIA TECH*	O. 18 FLORIDA STATE	O. 11 WEST VIRGINIA*	O. 11 WAKE FOREST*	O. 11 GEORGIA TECH	O. 18 DUKE*	O. 11 NORTH CAROLINA
O. 25 MARYLAND	O. 18 VIRGINIA	O. 25 VIRGINIA	O. 30 NORTH CAROLINA*	O. 18 WAKE FOREST	O. 18 N.C. STATE	O. 18 NORTH CAROLINA*	O. 25 FLORIDA STATE*	O. 18 MARYLAND*
N. 1 WAKE FOREST	O. 25 WAKE FOREST*	N. 1 N.C. STATE*	N. 8 VIRGINIA	O. 25 CLEMSON*	O. 30 GEORGIA TECH	N. 1 FLORIDA STATE	N. 1 MARYLAND	O. 25 DUKE
N. 8 DUKE*	N. 8 CLEMSON	N. 8 NORTH CAROLINA	N. 15 DUKE	N. 1 VIRGINIA*	N. 8 FLORIDA STATE*	N. 8 MARYLAND*	N. 8 GEORGIA TECH*	N. 1 CLEMSON*
N. 15 NORTH CAROLINA*	N. 15 GEORGIA TECH*	N. 15 WAKE FOREST*	N. 22 MARYLAND*	N. 8 N.C. STATE	N. 15 CLEMSON	N. 15 VIRGINIA*	N. 15 N.C. STATE	N. 8 RUTGERS
N. 22 SOUTH CAROLINA	N. 22 NORTH CAROLINA	N. 22 FLORIDA	N. 29 GEORGIA*	N. 22 GEORGIA TECH	N. 22 DUKE*	N. 22 EAST CAROLINA*	N. 29 VIRGINIA TECH*	N. 15 FLORIDA STATE

BIG EAST

BOSTON COLLEGE CHESTNUT HILL, MASS. (5-7)	MIAMI CORAL GABLES, FLA. (9-3)	PITTSBURGH PITTSBURGH, PA. (4-7)	RUTGERS NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. (2-9)	SYRACUSE SYRACUSE, N.Y. (9-3)	TEMPLE PHILADELPHIA, PA. (1-10)	VIRGINIA TECH BLACKSBURG, VA. (10-2)	WEST VIRGINIA MORGANTOWN, W.VA. (8-4)
S. 6 TEMPLE	A. 30 BAYLOR	A. 30 SW LOUISIANA*	A. 30 VIRGINIA TECH*	A. 24 WISCONSIN*	A. 28 W. MICHIGAN	A. 30 RUTGERS	A. 30 MARSHALL*
S. 13 WEST VIRGINIA*	S. 13 ARIZONA STATE*	S. 13 PENN STATE	S. 6 TEXAS	A. 30 N.C. STATE*	S. 6 BOSTON COLLEGE*	S. 13 SYRACUSE*	S. 6 EAST CAROLINA*
S. 20 RUTGERS	S. 18 PITTSBURGH	S. 13 HOUSTON	S. 13 NAVY	S. 6 OKLAHOMA	S. 13 PENN STATE	S. 20 TEMPLE	S. 13 BOSTON COLLEGE
S. 27 CINCINNATI*	S. 27 WEST VIRGINIA*	S. 18 MIAMI*	S. 20 BOSTON COLLEGE*	S. 13 VIRGINIA TECH	S. 20 VIRGINIA TECH*	S. 27 ARKANSAS ST.*	S. 27 MIAMI
O. 4 GEORGIA TECH*	O. 4 FLORIDA STATE	O. 4 TEMPLE	O. 4 WEST VIRGINIA	S. 20 TULANE*	S. 27 MARYLAND*	O. 4 MIAMI (OH)*	O. 4 RUTGERS*
O. 11 VIRGINIA TECH	O. 18 BOSTON COLLEGE	O. 11 NOTRE DAME*	O. 9 SYRACUSE*	O. 4 EAST CAROLINA*	O. 4 PITTSBURGH*	O. 11 BOSTON COLLEGE*	O. 11 MARYLAND
O. 18 MIAMI*	O. 25 TEMPLE*	O. 25 RUTGERS	O. 18 ARMY	O. 9 RUTGERS	O. 18 SYRACUSE	O. 25 WEST VIRGINIA	O. 25 VIRGINIA TECH*
O. 25 NOTRE DAME	N. 1 ARKANSAS ST.*	N. 1 BOSTON COLLEGE	O. 25 PITTSBURGH*	O. 18 TEMPLE*	O. 25 MIAMI	N. 1 UAB*	N. 1 SYRACUSE
N. 1 PITTSBURGH*	N. 8 VIRGINIA TECH	N. 15 SYRACUSE*	N. 1 TEMPLE	N. 1 WEST VIRGINIA*	N. 1 RUTGERS*	N. 8 MIAMI (FL)*	N. 15 TEMPLE*
N. 8 SYRACUSE	N. 15 RUTGERS*	N. 22 VIRGINIA TECH*	N. 8 WAKE FOREST*	N. 8 BOSTON COLLEGE*	N. 8 NAVY	N. 22 PITTSBURGH	N. 22 NOTRE DAME
N. 22 ARMY*	N. 29 SYRACUSE*	N. 28 WEST VIRGINIA	N. 15 MIAMI	N. 15 PITTSBURGH	N. 15 WEST VIRGINIA	N. 29 VIRGINIA	N. 28 PITTSBURGH*

BIG TEN

ILLINOIS CHAMPAIGN, ILL. (2-9)	INDIANA BLOOMINGTON, IND. (3-8)	IOWA IOWA CITY, IOWA (9-3)	MICHIGAN ANN ARBOR, MICH. (8-4)	MICHIGAN STATE EAST LANSING, MICH. (6-6)	MINNESOTA MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. (4-7)	NORTHWESTERN EVANSTON, ILL. (9-3)	OHIO STATE COLUMBUS, OHIO (11-1)
S. 6 SOUTHERN MISS*	S. 6 NORTH CAROLINA	S. 6 NORTHERN IOWA*	S. 13 COLORADO*	S. 6 WESTERN MICHIGAN*	A. 30 HAWAII	S. 6 WAKE FOREST	A. 28 WYOMING*
S. 13 LOUISVILLE	S. 13 BALL STATE*	S. 13 TULSA*	S. 13 BAYLOR*	S. 13 MEMPHIS*	S. 13 IOWA STATE*	S. 13 DUKE*	S. 13 BOWLING GREEN*
S. 20 WASHINGTON ST.*	S. 20 KENTUCKY*	S. 20 IOWA STATE	S. 27 NOTRE DAME*	S. 20 NOTRE DAME	S. 20 MEMPHIS	S. 20 RICE*	S. 20 ARIZONA*
S. 27 IOWA	S. 27 WISCONSIN	S. 27 ILLINOIS*	O. 4 INDIANA	O. 4 MINNESOTA*	S. 27 HOUSTON*	S. 27 PURDUE	S. 27 MISSOURI
O. 4 PENN STATE*	O. 4 MICHIGAN*	O. 4 OHIO STATE	O. 11 NORTHWESTERN*	O. 11 INDIANA	O. 4 MICHIGAN ST.	O. 4 WISCONSIN*	O. 4 IOWA*
O. 11 WISCONSIN	O. 11 MICHIGAN ST.*	O. 18 MICHIGAN	O. 18 IOWA*	O. 18 NORTHWESTERN	O. 11 PURDUE*	O. 11 MICHIGAN	O. 11 PENN STATE
O. 25 PURDUE*	O. 18 OHIO STATE	O. 25 INDIANA*	O. 25 MICHIGAN ST.	O. 25 MICHIGAN*	O. 18 PENN STATE	O. 18 MICHIGAN ST.*	O. 18 INDIANA*
N. 1 INDIANA	O. 25 IOWA	N. 1 PURDUE*	N. 1 MINNESOTA*	N. 1 OHIO STATE*	O. 25 WISCONSIN*	O. 25 OHIO STATE	O. 25 NORTHWESTERN*
N. 8 NORTHWESTERN*	N. 1 ILLINOIS*	N. 8 WISCONSIN	N. 8 PENN STATE	N. 8 PURDUE	N. 1 MICHIGAN	N. 1 PENN STATE*	N. 1 MICHIGAN ST.
N. 15 OHIO STATE	N. 15 MINNESOTA	N. 15 NORTHWESTERN	N. 15 WISCONSIN	N. 22 ILLINOIS	N. 8 OHIO STATE*	N. 8 ILLINOIS	N. 8 MINNESOTA
N. 22 MICHIGAN ST.*	N. 22 PURDUE*	N. 22 MINNESOTA*	N. 22 OHIO STATE*	N. 29 PENN STATE*	N. 15 INDIANA*	N. 15 IOWA*	N. 15 ILLINOIS*

PENN STATE

UNIVERSITY PARK, PA.
(11-2)

S. 6 PITTSBURGH*

PURDUE

WEST LAFAYETTE, IND.
(3-8)

S. 6 TOLEDO

WISCONSIN

MADISON, WIS.
(7-5)

A. 24 SYRACUSE*

BIG TWELVE

BAYLOR

WACO, TEXAS
(4-7)

A. 30 MIAMI*

COLORADO

BOULDER, COLO.
(10-2)

S. 6 COLORADO ST.*

IOWA STATE

AMES, IOWA
(2-9)

A. 30 OKLAHOMA ST.*

KANSAS

LAWRENCE, KAN.
(4-7)

A. 28 UAB*

KANSAS STATE

MANHATTAN, KAN.
(9-3)

S. 6 N. ILLINOIS

MISSOURI

COLUMBIA, MO.
(5-6)

S. 6 E. MICHIGAN*

NEBRASKA

LINCOLN, NEB.
(11-2)

A. 30 AKRON*

OKLAHOMA

NORMAN, OKLA.
(3-8)

S. 6 SYRACUSE*

OKLAHOMA STATE

STILLWATER, OKLA.
(5-6)

A. 30 IOWA STATE

TEXAS

AUSTIN, TEXAS
(8-5)

S. 6 RUTGERS*

TEXAS A&M

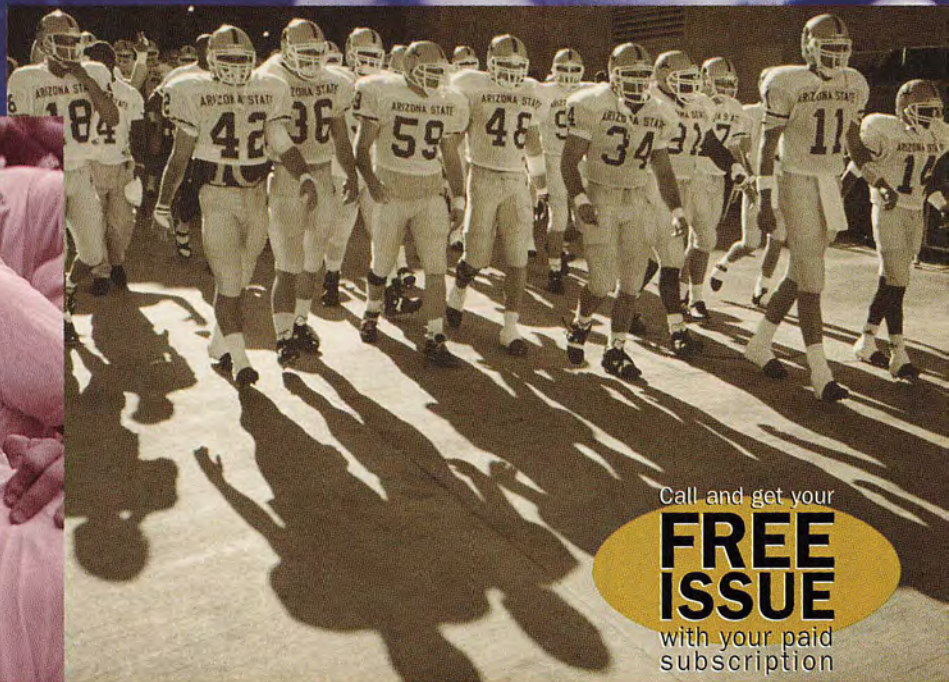
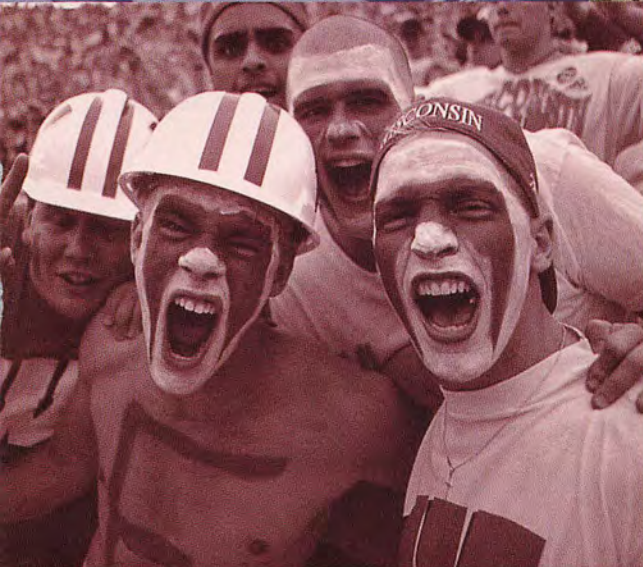
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS
(6-6)

S. 6 SAM HOUSTON*

TEXAS TECH

LUBBOCK, TEXAS
(7-5)

A. 30 TENNESSEE



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1997 college schedules

* Home game

BIG WEST

BOISE STATE

BOISE, IDAHO
(2-10)
A.30 CAL ST. NORTH*
S. 6 WISCONSIN
S.13 C. MICHIGAN
S.20 WEBER STATE*
S.27 WASHINGTON ST.
O.18 NORTH TEXAS
O.25 LOUISIANA TECH*
N. 1 UTAH STATE
N. 8 NEVADA*
N.15 NEW MEXICO ST.*
N.22 IDAHO

IDAHO

MOSCOW, IDAHO
(6-5)
A.30 AIR FORCE
S. 6 PORTLAND ST.*
S.13 NEW MEXICO ST.
S.20 C. FLORIDA
O. 4 NORTH TEXAS*
O.11 UC-DAVIS*
O.18 NEVADA
O.25 UTAH STATE*
N. 1 E. WASHINGTON
N.22 BOISE STATE*

NEVADA

RENO, NEV.
(9-3)
A.30 COLORADO ST.
S. 6 UNLV*
S.13 OREGON*
S.20 SOUTHERN MISS
S.27 TOLEDO
O.11 WYOMING*
O.18 IDAHO*
O.25 NORTH TEXAS*
N. 1 NEW MEXICO ST.
N. 8 BOISE STATE
N.15 UTAH STATE*

NEW MEXICO ST.

LAS CRUCES, N.M.
(1-10)
A.30 ARIZONA STATE
S. 6 NEW MEXICO
S.13 ARKANSAS ST.*
S.20 CAL ST. NORTH*
S.27 TEXAS EL PASO
O. 4 CAL POLY SLO*
O.18 UTAH STATE
O.25 IDAHO*
N. 1 NEVADA*
N. 8 NORTH TEXAS*
N.15 BOISE STATE

NORTH TEXAS

DENTON, TEXAS
(5-6)
A.30 VANDERBILT
S. 6 OREGON STATE
S.13 INDIANA STATE*
S.20 TEXAS TECH
S.27 TEXAS A&M*
O. 4 IDAHO
O.18 BOISE STATE
O.25 NEVADA
N. 8 NEW MEXICO ST.
N.15 ARMY*
N.22 UTAH STATE*
@IRVING, TEXAS

UTAH STATE

LOGAN, UTAH
(6-5)
A.30 UTAH
S. 6 IDAHO STATE*
S.13 COLORADO ST.*
S.20 NEW MEXICO*
O. 3 BYU
O.11 OREGON STATE
O.18 NEW MEXICO ST.*
O.25 IDAHO
N. 1 BOISE STATE*
N.15 NEVADA
N.22 NORTH TEXAS

CONFERENCE USA

CINCINNATI

CINCINNATI, OHIO
(6-5)
A.28 TULSA*
S. 6 TULANE
S.20 KANSAS*
S.27 BOSTON COLLEGE
O. 4 MEMPHIS*
O.11 UAB*
O.18 HOUSTON
O.25 MIAMI (OH)
N. 1 SOUTHERN MISS*
N. 8 LOUISVILLE*
N.15 EAST CAROLINA

EAST CAROLINA

GREENVILLE, N.C.
(8-3)
A.30 WEST VIRGINIA
S.13 WAKE FOREST*
S.20 SOUTH CAROLINA*
O. 4 SYRACUSE
O.11 SOUTHERN MISS*
O.18 TULANE
O.25 MEMPHIS*
N. 1 LOUISVILLE
N. 8 HOUSTON
N.15 CINCINNATI*
N.22 N.C. STATE

HOUSTON

HOUSTON, TEXAS
(7-5)
A.30 ALABAMA
S. 6 CALIFORNIA*
S.13 PITTSBURGH*
S.27 MINNESOTA
O. 4 UCLA
O.18 CINCINNATI*
O.25 LOUISVILLE
N. 1 MEMPHIS
N. 8 EAST CAROLINA*
N.15 SOUTHERN MISS
N.22 TULANE*

LOUISVILLE

LOUISVILLE, KY.
(5-6)
A.30 KENTUCKY
S. 6 UTAH*
S.13 ILLINOIS*
S.20 PENN STATE*
S.27 OKLAHOMA
O. 4 SOUTHERN MISS
O.11 TULANE*
O.25 HOUSTON*
N. 1 EAST CAROLINA*
N. 8 CINCINNATI*
N.15 MEMPHIS

MEMPHIS

MEMPHIS, TENN.
(4-7)
A.30 MISSISSIPPI ST.
S. 6 UAB*
S.13 MICHIGAN ST.
S.20 MINNESOTA*
O. 4 CINCINNATI
O.11 ARKANSAS ST.*
O.25 EAST CAROLINA
N. 1 HOUSTON*
N. 8 TULANE
N.15 LOUISVILLE*
N.22 SOUTHERN MISS*

SOUTHERN MISS

HATTIESBURG, MISS.
(8-3)
A.30 FLORIDA
S. 6 ILLINOIS
S.20 NEVADA*
S.27 ALABAMA
O. 4 LOUISVILLE*
O.11 ARKANSAS ST.*
O.25 TULANE*
N. 1 CINCINNATI
N. 8 TENNESSEE
N.15 HOUSTON*
N.22 MEMPHIS

TULANE

NEW ORLEANS, LA
(2-9)
S. 6 CINCINNATI*
S.13 RICE*
S.20 SYRACUSE
O. 4 ARMY*
O.11 LOUISVILLE
O.18 EAST CAROLINA*
O.25 SOUTHERN MISS
N. 1 SOUTHWESTERN LA.
N. 8 MEMPHIS*
N.15 MISSISSIPPI*
N.22 HOUSTON

MID-AMERICAN

AKRON

AKRON, OHIO
(4-7)
A.30 NEBRASKA
S.13 MIAMI (OH)
S.20 BOWLING GREEN*
S.27 LOUISIANA STATE
O. 4 C. MICHIGAN*
O.11 MARSHALL
O.18 E. MICHIGAN
O.25 OHIO*
N. 1 BALL STATE
N. 8 KENT*
N.15 TOLEDO

BALL STATE

MUNCIE, IND.
(8-4)
A.30 MIAMI (OH)
S. 6 JAMES MADISON*
S.13 INDIANA
S.20 PURDUE
S.27 MARSHALL*
O. 4 W. MICHIGAN
O.11 E. MICHIGAN
O.18 C. MICHIGAN*
O.25 N. ILLINOIS*
N. 1 AKRON*
N. 8 TOLEDO*

BOWLING GREEN

BOWLING GREEN, OHIO
(4-7)
A.30 LOUISIANA TECH
S. 6 MIAMI (OH)*
S.13 OHIO STATE
S.20 AKRON
S.27 KANSAS STATE
O. 4 N. ILLINOIS*
O.11 W. MICHIGAN*
O.18 OHIO
O.25 TOLEDO*
N. 1 KENT
N. 8 MARSHALL

CENTRAL MICHIGAN

MT. PLEASANT, MICH.
(5-6)
A.28 N. ILLINOIS*
S. 6 FLORIDA
S.13 BOISE STATE*
S.20 LOUISIANA TECH
S.27 E. MICHIGAN*
O. 4 AKRON
O.11 TOLEDO*
O.18 BALL STATE
O.25 KENT
N. 1 MARSHALL*
N. 8 W. MICHIGAN

EASTERN MICHIGAN

YPSILANTI, MICH.
(3-8)
A.28 MISSOURI
S. 6 TOLEDO
S.13 KENT*
S.27 C. MICHIGAN
O. 4 OHIO*
O.11 BALL STATE*
O.18 AKRON*
O.25 MARSHALL
N. 1 W. MICHIGAN*
N. 8 N. ILLINOIS
N.15 C. FLORIDA

MARSHALL

HUNTINGTON, W.VA.
(15-0)
A.30 WEST VIRGINIA
S. 6 ARMY
S.13 KENT
S.20 W. ILLINOIS*
S.27 BALL STATE
O.18 MIAMI (OH)
O.25 E. MICHIGAN*
N. 1 C. MICHIGAN
N. 8 BOWLING GREEN*
N.15 OHIO*

MIAMI

OXFORD, OHIO
(6-5)
A.30 BALL STATE*
S. 6 BOWLING GREEN
S.13 AKRON*
S.27 ARMY
O. 4 VIRGINIA TECH
O.11 KENT
O.18 MARSHALL*
O.25 CINCINNATI*
N. 1 TOLEDO
N. 8 OHIO
N.15 N. ILLINOIS*

NO. ILLINOIS

DEKALB, ILL.
(1-10)
A.28 CENTRAL MICHIGAN
S. 6 KANSAS STATE*
S.13 W. MICHIGAN*
S.20 N.C. STATE
O. 4 BOWLING GREEN
O.11 VANDERBILT*
O.18 TOLEDO
O.25 BALL STATE*
N. 1 OHIO*
N. 8 E. MICHIGAN*
N.15 MIAMI (OH)

OHIO

ATHENS, OHIO
(6-6)
A.30 KENT*
S. 6 MARYLAND
S.13 KANSAS STATE
S.20 BUFFALO*
S.27 W. MICHIGAN*
O. 4 E. MICHIGAN
O.18 BOWLING GREEN*
O.25 AKRON
N. 1 N. ILLINOIS
N. 8 MIAMI (OH)*
N.15 MARSHALL

TOLEDO

TOLEDO, OHIO
(7-4)
A.28 PURDUE*
S.13 E. MICHIGAN*
S.20 W. MICHIGAN
S.27 NEVADA*
O.11 C. MICHIGAN
O.18 N. ILLINOIS*
O.25 BOWLING GREEN
N. 1 MIAMI (OH)*
N. 8 BALL STATE
N.15 AKRON*
N.22 C. FLORIDA

WESTERN MICHIGAN

KALAMAZOO, MICH.
(2-9)
A.28 TEMPLE*
S. 6 MICHIGAN ST.
S.13 N. ILLINOIS
S.20 TOLEDO*
S.27 OHIO
O. 4 BALL STATE*
O.11 BOWLING GREEN
O.18 KENT*
N. 1 E. MICHIGAN
N. 8 C. MICHIGAN*
N.15 NE LOUISIANA

PAC TEN

ARIZONA

TUCSON, ARIZ.
(5-6)
S. 4 OREGON
S.13 UAB*
S.20 OHIO STATE
S.27 UCLA
O. 4 SAN DIEGO ST.*
O.11 STANFORD*
O.18 WASHINGTON*
O.25 WASHINGTON ST.
N. 8 OREGON ST.*
N.15 CALIFORNIA*
N.28 ARIZONA ST.

ARIZONA STATE

TEMPE, ARIZ.
(11-1)
A.30 NEW MEXICO STATE*
S.13 MIAMI
S.20 BYU*
S.27 OREGON STATE
O. 4 WASHINGTON
O.11 UTAH
O.18 STANFORD
O.25 WASHINGTON STATE*
N. 8 CALIFORNIA
N.15 OREGON*
N.28 ARIZONA*

CALIFORNIA

BERKELEY, CALIF.
(6-6)
S. 6 HOUSTON
S.13 OKLAHOMA*
S.27 USC*
O. 4 LOUISIANA TECH
O.11 WASHINGTON*
O.18 WASHINGTON ST.
O.25 UCLA
N. 1 OREGON STATE*
N. 8 ARIZONA STATE*
N.15 ARIZONA
N.22 STANFORD

OREGON

EUGENE, ORE.
(6-5)
S. 4 ARIZONA*
S.13 NEVADA
S.20 FRESNO STATE*
S.27 STANFORD
O. 4 WASHINGTON ST.*
O.11 UCLA*
O.18 UTAH*
O.25 USC
N. 8 WASHINGTON
N.15 ARIZONA ST.
N.22 OREGON ST.*

OREGON STATE

CORVALLIS, ORE.
(2-9)
S. 6 NORTH TEXAS*
S.13 STANFORD*
S.27 ARIZONA STATE*
O. 4 SAN JOSE STATE*
O.11 UTAH STATE*
O.18 NOTRE DAME
O.25 WASHINGTON*
N. 1 CALIFORNIA
N. 8 ARIZONA
N.15 USC*
N.22 OREGON

SOUTHERN CAL

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.
(6-6)
S. 6 FLORIDA STATE*
S.13 WASHINGTON ST.*
S.27 CALIFORNIA
O. 4 UNLV*
O.11 ARIZONA STATE
O.18 NOTRE DAME
O.25 OREGON*
N. 1 WASHINGTON
N. 8 STANFORD*
N.15 OREGON STATE
N.22 UCLA*

STANFORD

STANFORD, CALIF.
(7-5)
S. 6 SAN JOSE ST.*
S.13 NORTH CAROLINA
S.20 OREGON ST.
O. 4 OREGON*
O.11 NOTRE DAME*
O.18 ARIZONA ST.*
N. 1 UCLA*
N. 8 USC
N.15 WASHINGTON ST.
N.22 CALIFORNIA*

UCLA

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.
(5-6)
A.30 WASHINGTON ST.
S. 6 TENNESSEE*
S.13 TEXAS
S.27 ARIZONA*
O. 4 HOUSTON*
O.11 OREGON
O.18 OREGON STATE*
O.25 CALIFORNIA*
N. 1 STANFORD
N.15 WASHINGTON*
N.22 USC

WASHINGTON

SEATTLE, WASH.
(9-3)
S. 6 BYU
S.13 SAN DIEGO STATE*
S.20 NEBRASKA*
S.27 ARIZONA STATE*
O.11 CALIFORNIA
O.18 ARIZONA
O.25 OREGON STATE
N. 1 USC*
N. 8 OREGON*
N.15 UCLA
N.22 WASHINGTON ST.*

WASHINGTON STATE

PULLMAN, WASH.
(5-6)
A.30 UCLA*
S.13 USC
S.20 ILLINOIS
S.27 BOISE STATE*
O. 4 OREGON
O.11 SW LOUISIANA*
O.18 CALIFORNIA*
O.25 ARIZONA*
N. 1 ARIZONA ST.
N.15 STANFORD*
N.22 WASHINGTON

1997 college schedules

* Home game

SEC

ALABAMA
TUSCALOOSA, ALA.
(10-3)
A. 30 HOUSTON*
S. 11 VANDERBILT
S. 20 ARKANSAS*
S. 27 SOUTHERN MISS*
O. 4 KENTUCKY*
O. 18 TENNESSEE*
O. 25 MISSISSIPPI
N. 8 LSU*
N. 15 MISSISSIPPI ST.*
N. 22 AUBURN

ARKANSAS
FAYETTEVILLE, ARK.
(4-7)
S. 6 NE LOUISIANA*
S. 13 SMU
S. 20 ALABAMA
S. 27 LOUISIANA TECH*
O. 4 FLORIDA
O. 18 SOUTH CAROLINA*
O. 25 AUBURN*
N. 6 OLE MISS
N. 15 TENNESSEE*
N. 22 MISSISSIPPI ST.*
N. 28 LSU

AUBURN
AUBURN, ALA.
(8-4)
S. 4 VIRGINIA
S. 13 OLE MISS*
S. 20 LSU
S. 27 C. FLORIDA*
O. 4 SOUTH CAROLINA
O. 11 LOUISIANA TECH*
O. 18 FLORIDA*
O. 25 ARKANSAS*
N. 1 MISSISSIPPI ST.
N. 15 GEORGIA
N. 22 ALABAMA*

FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, FLA.
(11-1)
A. 30 SOUTHERN MISS*
S. 6 C. MICHIGAN*
S. 20 TENNESSEE*
S. 27 KENTUCKY*
O. 4 ARKANSAS*
O. 11 LSU
O. 18 AUBURN
N. 1 GEORGIA*
N. 8 VANDERBILT*
N. 15 SOUTH CAROLINA
N. 22 FLORIDA STATE*

GEORGIA
ATHENS, GA.
(5-6)
A. 30 ARKANSAS ST.*
S. 13 SOUTH CAROLINA*
S. 20 NE LOUISIANA*
O. 4 MISSISSIPPI ST.*
O. 11 TENNESSEE
O. 18 VANDERBILT
O. 25 KENTUCKY*
N. 1 FLORIDA
N. 15 AUBURN*
N. 22 OLE MISS
N. 29 GEORGIA TECH

KENTUCKY
LEXINGTON, KY.
(4-7)
A. 30 LOUISVILLE*
S. 6 MISSISSIPPI ST.
S. 20 INDIANA
S. 27 FLORIDA*
O. 4 ALABAMA*
O. 18 SOUTH CAROLINA
O. 18 NE LOUISIANA*
O. 25 GEORGIA
N. 1 LSU*
N. 15 VANDERBILT
N. 22 TENNESSEE*

LOUISIANA STATE
BATON ROUGE, LA.
(9-2)
S. 6 TEXAS-EL PASO*
S. 13 MISSISSIPPI ST.
S. 20 AUBURN*
S. 27 AKRON*
O. 4 VANDERBILT
O. 11 FLORIDA*
O. 18 MISSISSIPPI*
N. 1 KENTUCKY
N. 8 ALABAMA
N. 15 NOTRE DAME*
N. 28 ARKANSAS*

MISSISSIPPI
OXFORD, MISS.
(5-6)
A. 30 CENTRAL FLORIDA*
S. 6 SMU*
S. 13 AUBURN
S. 27 VANDERBILT*
O. 4 TENNESSEE
O. 18 LSU
O. 25 ALABAMA*
N. 6 ARKANSAS*
N. 15 TULANE
N. 22 GEORGIA*
N. 29 MISSISSIPPI ST.

MISSISSIPPI STATE
STARKVILLE, MISS.
(5-6)
A. 30 MEMPHIS*
S. 6 KENTUCKY*
S. 13 LSU*
S. 27 SOUTH CAROLINA*
O. 4 GEORGIA
O. 11 NE LOUISIANA*
O. 18 C. FLORIDA*
N. 1 AUBURN
N. 15 ALABAMA
N. 22 ARKANSAS
N. 29 MISSISSIPPI*

SOUTH CAROLINA
COLUMBIA, S.C.
(6-5)
S. 6 C. FLORIDA*
S. 13 GEORGIA
S. 20 EAST CAROLINA
S. 27 MISSISSIPPI ST.
O. 4 AUBURN*
O. 11 KENTUCKY*
O. 18 ARKANSAS
O. 25 VANDERBILT*
N. 1 TENNESSEE
N. 15 FLORIDA*
N. 22 CLEMSON*

TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE, TENN.
(10-2)
A. 30 TEXAS TECH*
S. 6 UCL
S. 20 FLORIDA
O. 4 MISSISSIPPI*
O. 11 GEORGIA*
O. 18 ALABAMA
N. 1 SOUTH CAROLINA*
N. 8 SOUTHERN MISS
N. 15 ARKANSAS
N. 22 KENTUCKY
N. 29 VANDERBILT*

VANDERBILT
NASHVILLE, TENN.
(2-9)
A. 30 NORTH TEXAS*
S. 11 ALABAMA*
S. 20 TCU*
S. 27 MISSISSIPPI
O. 4 LSU*
O. 11 NORTHERN ILLINOIS
O. 18 GEORGIA*
O. 25 SOUTH CAROLINA
N. 8 FLORIDA
N. 15 KENTUCKY*
N. 29 TENNESSEE

WESTERN ATHLETIC

AIR FORCE
COLO. SPRINGS, COLO.
(6-5)
A. 30 IDAHO*
S. 6 RICE
S. 13 UNLV*
S. 20 COLORADO ST.
S. 27 SAN DIEGO ST.*
O. 4 CITADEL*
O. 11 NAVY
O. 18 FLORIDA STATE*
O. 25 SAN JOSE ST.
N. 1 HAWAII
N. 8 ARMY*
N. 15 WYOMING*

BRIGHAM YOUNG
PROVO, UTAH
(14-1)
S. 6 WASHINGTON*
S. 20 ARIZONA ST.
S. 27 SMU
O. 3 UTAH STATE*
O. 11 RICE
O. 18 HAWAII*
O. 25 TCU*
N. 1 UTEP
N. 8 TULSA*
N. 15 NEW MEXICO
N. 22 UTAH*

COLORADO STATE
FORT COLLINS, COLO.
(7-5)
A. 30 NEVADA*
S. 6 COLORADO
S. 13 UTAH STATE
S. 20 AIR FORCE*
O. 4 HAWAII*
O. 11 SAN JOSE ST.
O. 18 WYOMING
O. 25 TULSA*
N. 1 UNLV
N. 8 FRESNO STATE*
N. 22 SAN DIEGO ST.

FRESNO STATE
FRESNO, CALIF.
(4-7)
A. 30 PORTLAND ST.*
S. 6 BAYLOR*
S. 13 OKLAHOMA ST.
S. 20 OREGON
O. 4 UTAH*
O. 11 HAWAII*
O. 18 AIR FORCE
O. 25 UNLV*
N. 1 SAN JOSE ST.
N. 8 COLORADO ST.
N. 15 SAN DIEGO ST.*
N. 22 WYOMING*

HAWAII
HONOLULU, HAWAII
(2-10)
A. 30 MINNESOTA*
S. 6 CAL ST. NORTH.
S. 13 WYOMING*
S. 20 UNLV
O. 4 COLORADO ST.*
O. 11 FRESNO STATE*
O. 18 BYU
O. 25 SAN DIEGO ST.*
N. 1 AIR FORCE*
N. 15 SAN JOSE ST.
N. 22 NE LOUISIANA*
N. 29 NOTRE DAME*

NEW MEXICO
ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.
(6-5)
A. 30 N. ARIZONA*
S. 6 NEW MEXICO ST.*
S. 13 UTEP
S. 27 UTAH STATE
O. 4 SMU*
O. 11 SAN DIEGO ST.
O. 18 RICE*
O. 25 UTAH
N. 1 SMU
N. 8 TCU*
N. 15 BYU*
N. 22 TULSA*

RICE
HOUSTON, TEXAS
(7-4)
S. 6 AIR FORCE*
S. 13 TULANE
S. 20 NORTHWESTERN
S. 27 TEXAS*
O. 4 TULSA
O. 11 BYU*
O. 18 NEW MEXICO
N. 1 SMU
N. 8 TCU*
N. 15 UTAH
N. 22 UTEP*

SAN DIEGO STATE
SAN DIEGO, CALIF.
(8-3)
S. 13 WASHINGTON
S. 20 WISCONSIN
S. 27 AIR FORCE
O. 4 ARIZONA
O. 11 NEW MEXICO*
O. 18 UNLV*
O. 25 HAWAII
N. 1 WYOMING
N. 8 SAN JOSE ST.*
N. 15 FRESNO STATE
N. 22 COLORADO ST.*

SAN JOSE STATE
SAN JOSE, CALIF.
(3-9)
S. 6 STANFORD
S. 13 WISCONSIN*
S. 20 WYOMING
O. 4 OREGON ST.
O. 11 COLORADO ST.*
O. 18 UTEP
O. 25 AIR FORCE*
N. 1 FRESNO ST.*
N. 8 SAN DIEGO ST.
N. 15 HAWAII*
N. 22 UNLV

SMU
DALLAS, TEXAS
(5-6)
S. 6 MISSISSIPPI
S. 13 ARKANSAS*
S. 20 NAVY*
S. 27 BYU*
O. 4 NEW MEXICO
O. 11 UTAH
O. 25 WYOMING*
N. 1 RICE*
N. 8 UTEP*
N. 15 TULSA
N. 22 TCU

TEXAS CHRISTIAN
FORT WORTH, TEXAS
(4-7)
S. 6 KANSAS
S. 13 UTAH*
S. 20 VANDERBILT
O. 4 NORTH CAROLINA*
O. 11 UNLV
O. 18 TULSA*
O. 25 BYU
N. 1 NEW MEXICO*
N. 8 RICE
N. 15 UTEP
N. 22 SMU*

TULSA
TULSA, OKLA.
(4-7)
A. 28 CINCINNATI
S. 13 IOWA
S. 20 MISSOURI*
O. 4 RICE*
O. 11 UTEP*
O. 18 TCU
O. 25 COLORADO ST.
N. 1 UTAH*
N. 8 BYU
N. 15 SMU*
N. 22 NEW MEXICO

UNLV
LAS VEGAS, NEV.
(1-11)
S. 6 NEVADA
S. 13 AIR FORCE
S. 20 HAWAII*
S. 27 ILLINOIS STATE
O. 4 USC
O. 11 TCU*
O. 18 SAN DIEGO ST.
O. 25 FRESNO ST.*
N. 1 COLORADO ST.*
N. 8 WYOMING
N. 22 SAN JOSE ST.*

UTAH
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
(8-4)
A. 30 UTAH STATE*
S. 6 LOUISVILLE
S. 13 TCU
S. 20 UTEP*
O. 4 FRESNO STATE
O. 11 SMU*
O. 18 OREGON
O. 25 NEW MEXICO*
N. 1 TULSA
N. 15 RICE*
N. 22 BYU

UTEP
EL PASO, TEXAS
(2-9)
S. 6 LSU
S. 13 NEW MEXICO*
S. 20 UTAH
S. 27 NEW MEXICO ST.*
O. 4 CLEMSON
O. 11 TULSA
O. 18 SAN JOSE ST.*
N. 1 BYU*
N. 8 SMU
N. 15 TCU*
N. 22 RICE

WYOMING
LARAMIE, WYO.
(10-2)
A. 28 OHIO STATE
S. 6 IOWA STATE*
S. 13 HAWAII
S. 20 SAN JOSE ST.*
S. 27 COLORADO
O. 11 NEVADA
O. 18 COLORADO ST.*
O. 25 SMU
N. 1 SAN DIEGO ST.*
N. 8 UNLV*
N. 15 AIR FORCE
N. 22 FRESNO STATE

I-A INDEPENDENTS

ARKANSAS STATE
JONESBORO, ARK.
(4-7)
A. 30 GEORGIA
S. 6 C. ARKANSAS*
S. 13 NEW MEXICO ST.*
S. 20 SOUTHERN UTAH*
S. 27 VIRGINIA TECH
O. 4 SIW LOUISIANA*
O. 11 MEMPHIS
O. 18 LOUISIANA TECH
N. 1 MIAMI
N. 8 SAN MISSOURI ST.*
N. 22 UAB*

ARMY
WEST POINT, N.Y.
(10-2)
S. 6 MARSHALL*
S. 13 LAFAYETTE*
S. 20 DUKE
S. 27 MIAMI (OH)*
O. 4 TULANE
O. 18 RUTGERS*
O. 25 COLGATE*
N. 8 AIR FORCE
N. 15 NORTH TEXAS*
N. 22 BOSTON COLLEGE
D. 6 NAVY@
@E. RUTHERFORD, NJ

CENTRAL FLORIDA
ORLANDO, FLA.
(5-6)
A. 30 MISSISSIPPI
S. 6 SOUTH CAROLINA
S. 13 NEBRASKA
S. 20 IDAHO*
S. 27 AUBURN
O. 4 KENT
O. 11 SAMPORD*
O. 25 MISSISSIPPI ST.
N. 1 NE LOUISIANA
N. 15 E. MICHIGAN*
N. 22 TOLEDO*

LOUISIANA TECH
RUSTON, LA.
(6-5)
A. 30 BOWLING GREEN*
S. 13 NE LOUISIANA*
S. 20 CENTRAL MICHIGAN*
S. 27 ARKANSAS
O. 4 CALIFORNIA*
O. 11 CALIFORNIA
O. 18 ARKANSAS ST.*
O. 25 BOISE STATE
N. 1 ALABAMA
N. 8 UAB
N. 15 SW LOUISIANA

NAVY
ANNAPOLIS, MD.
(8-3)
S. 5 SAN DIEGO ST.
S. 13 RUTGERS*
S. 20 SMU
S. 27 DUKE
O. 11 AIR FORCE*
O. 18 VM*
N. 1 NOTRE DAME
N. 8 TEMPLE*
N. 15 COLGATE*
N. 22 KENT*
D. 6 ARMY@
@E. RUTHERFORD, NJ

NE LOUISIANA
MONROE, LA.
(5-6)
A. 30 NICHOLLS ST.*
S. 6 ARKANSAS
S. 13 LA TECH
S. 20 GEORGIA
S. 27 OKLAHOMA ST.
O. 4 NORTHWESTERN ST.*
O. 11 MISSISSIPPI ST.
O. 18 KENTUCKY
O. 25 SW LOUISIANA
N. 1 C. FLORIDA
N. 22 W. MICHIGAN*
N. 29 HAWAII

NOTRE DAME
SOUTH BEND, IND.
(8-3)
S. 6 GEORGIA TECH*
S. 13 ARDUE
S. 20 MICHIGAN ST.*
S. 27 MICHIGAN
O. 4 STANFORD
O. 11 PITTSBURGH
O. 18 USC*
O. 25 BOSTON COLLEGE*
N. 1 NAVY*
N. 15 LSU
N. 22 WEST VIRGINIA*
N. 29 HAWAII

SW LOUISIANA
LAFAYETTE, LA.
(5-6)
A. 30 PITTSBURGH
S. 6 OKLAHOMA ST.*
S. 13 TEXAS TECH
S. 20 TEXAS A&M
S. 27 UAB*
O. 4 ARKANSAS ST.
O. 11 WASHINGTON ST
O. 25 NE LOUISIANA*
N. 1 TULANE*
N. 15 LA TECH*

UAB
BIRMINGHAM, AL
(5-6)
A. 28 KANSAS
S. 6 MEMPHIS
S. 13 ARIZONA
S. 20 JACKSONVILLE ST.*
S. 27 SIW LOUISIANA
O. 4 WESTERN KY.*
O. 11 CINCINNATI
N. 1 VIRGINIA TECH
N. 8 LOUISIANA TECH*
N. 15 TENNESSEE TECH*
N. 22 ARKANSAS ST.

1997 college schedules

* Home game

ATLANTIC 10

BOSTON
BOSTON, MASS.
(1-10)
S. 6 HOFSTRA
S. 20 YOUNGSTOWN ST.*
S. 27 WM. AND MARY
O. 4 DELAWARE*
O. 11 RHODE ISLAND*
O. 18 MAINE
O. 25 NORTHEASTERN*
N. 1 CONNECTICUT
N. 8 MASSACHUSETTS*
N. 15 NEW HAMPSHIRE
N. 22 JAMES MADISON*

CONNECTICUT
STORRS, CONN.
(4-6)
S. 13 NORTHEASTERN*
S. 20 HOFSTRA
S. 27 YALE
O. 4 BUFFALO*
O. 11 MAINE
O. 18 WM. AND MARY*
O. 25 RHODE ISLAND*
N. 1 BOSTON*
N. 8 DELAWARE
N. 15 MASSACHUSETTS
N. 22 NEW HAMPSHIRE*

DELAWARE
NEWARK, DEL.
(8-4)
S. 6 NEW HAMPSHIRE
S. 13 VILLANOVA*
S. 20 WEST CHESTER*
S. 27 NORTHEASTERN
O. 4 BOSTON
O. 11 RICHMOND*
O. 18 JAMES MADISON
O. 25 MASSACHUSETTS
N. 1 WM. AND MARY*
N. 8 CONNECTICUT*
N. 15 LEHIGH

JAMES MADISON
HARRISONBURG, VA.
(7-4)
S. 6 BALL STATE
S. 13 EAST TENN. ST.*
S. 20 MASSACHUSETTS*
S. 27 MAINE
O. 4 VILLANOVA
O. 11 WM. AND MARY
O. 18 DELAWARE*
O. 25 RICHMOND*
N. 8 NORTHEASTERN
N. 15 RHODE ISLAND*
N. 22 BOSTON

MAINE
ORONO, MAINE
(7-4)
S. 6 RHODE ISLAND
S. 13 MASSACHUSETTS*
S. 20 VILLANOVA
S. 27 JAMES MADISON*
O. 4 RICHMOND
O. 11 CONNECTICUT*
O. 18 BOSTON*
O. 25 NEW HAMPSHIRE
N. 8 BUFFALO
N. 15 NORTHEASTERN
N. 22 HOFSTRA

MASSACHUSETTS
AMHERST, MASS.
(6-5)
A. 30 RICHMOND*
S. 13 MAINE
S. 20 JAMES MADISON
S. 27 RHODE ISLAND*
O. 4 NEW HAMPSHIRE*
O. 11 VILLANOVA
O. 18 BUFFALO
O. 25 DELAWARE*
N. 1 HOFSTRA*
N. 8 BOSTON
N. 15 CONNECTICUT*

NEW HAMPSHIRE
DURHAM, N.H.
(8-3)
S. 6 DELAWARE*
S. 13 RHODE ISLAND
S. 20 WM. AND MARY*
S. 27 STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
O. 4 MASSACHUSETTS
O. 11 HOFSTRA*
O. 18 NORTHEASTERN
O. 25 MAINE*
N. 8 VILLANOVA
N. 15 BOSTON*
N. 22 CONNECTICUT

NORTHEASTERN
BOSTON, MASS.
(6-5)
S. 6 ST. MARY'S (CA)
S. 13 CONNECTICUT
S. 20 RHODE ISLAND
S. 27 DELAWARE*
O. 4 WM. AND MARY*
O. 18 NEW HAMPSHIRE*
O. 25 BOSTON
N. 1 RICHMOND
N. 8 JAMES MADISON*
N. 15 MAINE*
N. 22 VILLANOVA

RHODE ISLAND
KINGSTON, R.I.
(4-6)
S. 6 MAINE*
S. 13 NEW HAMPSHIRE*
S. 20 NORTHEASTERN*
S. 27 MASSACHUSETTS
O. 4 HOFSTRA*
O. 11 BOSTON
O. 18 BROWN
O. 25 CONNECTICUT
N. 1 VILLANOVA*
N. 8 RICHMOND
N. 15 JAMES MADISON

RICHMOND
RICHMOND, VA.
(2-9)
A. 30 MASSACHUSETTS
S. 6 COLGATE
S. 13 VIRGINIA
S. 20 VMI*
O. 4 MAINE*
O. 11 DELAWARE
O. 18 VILLANOVA*
O. 25 JAMES MADISON
N. 1 NORTHEASTERN*
N. 8 RHODE ISLAND*
N. 15 WM. AND MARY

VILLANOVA
VILLANOVA, PA.
(8-4)
A. 28 WEST CHESTER*
S. 13 DELAWARE
S. 20 MAINE*
O. 4 JAMES MADISON*
O. 11 MASSACHUSETTS*
O. 18 RICHMOND
O. 25 WM. AND MARY
N. 1 RHODE ISLAND
N. 8 NEW HAMPSHIRE*
N. 15 BUFFALO*
N. 22 NORTHEASTERN*

WILLIAM & MARY
WILLIAMSBURG, VA.
(10-3)
A. 30 HAMPTON*
S. 6 GA. SOUTHERN
S. 13 VMI
S. 20 NEW HAMPSHIRE
S. 27 BOSTON*
O. 4 NORTHEASTERN
O. 11 JAMES MADISON*
O. 18 CONNECTICUT
O. 25 VILLANOVA*
N. 1 DELAWARE
N. 15 RICHMOND*

BIG SKY

CAL ST.-NORTHridge
NORTHridge, CALIF.
(7-4)
A. 30 BOISE STATE
S. 8 HAWAII
S. 20 NEW MEXICO ST.
O. 4 PORTLAND ST.
O. 11 WEBER STATE*
O. 18 MONTANA ST.*
O. 25 CAL ST.-SAC.*
N. 1 MONTANA
N. 8 IDAHO STATE*
N. 15 E. WASHINGTON
N. 22 N. ARIZONA*

CAL ST.-SAC.
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.
(1-10)
S. 4 S.W. TEXAS
S. 20 UC DAVIS*
S. 27 MONTANA
O. 4 IDAHO STATE*
O. 11 E. WASHINGTON
O. 18 N. ARIZONA*
O. 25 CAL ST.-NORTH.
N. 1 PORTLAND ST.*
N. 8 WEBER STATE
N. 15 MONTANA ST.*

E. WASHINGTON
CHENEY, WASH.
(6-5)
S. 6 ROCKY MT. COLL.*
S. 13 PORTLAND ST.
S. 27 WEBER ST.*
O. 4 MONTANA ST.
O. 11 CAL ST.-SAC.*
O. 18 MONTANA
O. 25 IDAHO STATE*
N. 1 IDAHO*
N. 8 N. ARIZONA
N. 15 CAL ST.-NORTH.*

IDAHO STATE
POCATELLO, IDAHO
(4-7)
S. 6 UTAH STATE
S. 13 IDAHO*
S. 27 MONTANA ST.*
O. 4 CAL ST.-SAC.*
O. 11 MONTANA*
O. 18 SO. UTAH*
O. 25 E. WASHINGTON
N. 1 N. ARIZONA*
N. 8 CAL ST.-NORTH.
N. 15 PORTLAND ST.*
N. 22 WEBER STATE

MONTANA
MISSOULA, MONT.
(14-1)
A. 30 WYOMING
S. 13 S.F. AUSTIN*
S. 20 ST. MARY'S (CA)*
S. 27 CAL ST.-SAC.*
O. 11 IDAHO STATE
O. 18 E. WASHINGTON*
O. 25 N. ARIZONA
N. 1 CAL ST.-NORTH.*
N. 8 PORTLAND ST.
N. 15 WEBER STATE*
N. 22 MONTANA ST.

MONTANA STATE
BOZEMAN, MONT.
(6-5)
S. 13 CHANDRON ST.*
S. 20 SW TEXAS
S. 27 IDAHO STATE
O. 4 E. WASHINGTON*
O. 11 N. ARIZONA
O. 18 CAL ST.-NORTH.*
O. 25 PORTLAND ST.
N. 1 WEBER STATE*
N. 8 CAL POLY*
N. 15 CAL ST.-SAC.
N. 22 MONTANA*

NORTHERN ARIZONA
FLAGSTAFF, ARIZ.
(9-3)
A. 30 NEW MEXICO
A. 28 MINN. DULUTH*
S. 27 PORTLAND ST.*
O. 4 WEBER STATE
O. 11 MONTANA ST.*
O. 18 CAL ST.-SAC.
O. 25 MONTANA*
N. 1 IDAHO STATE
N. 8 E. WASHINGTON*
N. 22 CAL ST.-NORTH.

PORTLAND STATE
PORTLAND, ORE.
(3-8)
A. 30 FRESNO STATE
S. 6 IDAHO
S. 13 E. WASHINGTON*
S. 27 N. ARIZONA
O. 4 CAL ST.-NORTH.*
O. 11 ST. MARY'S (CA)
O. 18 WEBER STATE
O. 25 MONTANA ST.*
N. 1 CAL ST.-SAC.
N. 8 MONTANA*
N. 15 IDAHO STATE

WEBER STATE
OGDEN, UTAH
(7-4)
S. 6 WESTERN ST.*
S. 13 SO. UTAH*
S. 20 BOISE STATE
S. 27 E. WASHINGTON
O. 4 N. ARIZONA*
O. 11 CAL ST.-NORTH.
O. 18 PORTLAND ST.*
N. 1 MONTANA ST.
N. 8 CAL ST.-SAC.*
N. 15 MONTANA
N. 22 IDAHO STATE*

GATEWAY

ILLINOIS STATE
NORMAL, ILL.
(3-8)
S. 6 SOUTHERN UTAH
S. 6 BUFFALO*
S. 13 SE MISSOURI ST.
S. 20 E. ILLINOIS*
S. 27 UNLV
O. 4 NORTHERN IOWA*
O. 11 S. ILLINOIS
O. 18 SW MISSOURI
O. 25 INDIANA ST.*
N. 1 YOUNGSTOWN ST.
N. 8 W. ILLINOIS*

INDIANA STATE
TERRE HAUTE, IND.
(6-5)
A. 28 MURRAY ST.
S. 6 KENTUCKY ST.*
S. 13 NORTH TEXAS
S. 20 S. ILLINOIS*
O. 4 YOUNGSTOWN ST.*
O. 11 SW MISSOURI
O. 18 W. ILLINOIS*
O. 25 ILLINOIS ST.
N. 1 E. ILLINOIS*
N. 8 WESTERN KY.*
N. 15 NORTHERN IOWA

NORTHERN IOWA
CEDAR FALLS, IOWA
(12-1)
S. 6 IOWA
S. 13 MANKATO ST.*
S. 20 MCNEESE ST.*
S. 27 S. ILLINOIS*
O. 4 ILLINOIS ST.
O. 11 W. ILLINOIS
O. 18 YOUNGSTOWN ST.*
O. 25 CAL POLY
N. 1 SW MISSOURI
N. 8 SOUTHERN UTAH*
N. 15 INDIANA ST.*

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS
CARBONDALE, ILL.
(5-6)
S. 6 NICHOLLS ST.
S. 13 MURRAY ST.*
S. 20 INDIANA ST.
S. 27 NORTHERN IOWA
O. 4 SW MISSOURI*
O. 11 ILLINOIS ST.*
O. 18 SOUTH FLORIDA
O. 25 WESTERN KY.*
N. 1 W. ILLINOIS
N. 8 YOUNGSTOWN ST.*
N. 15 SE MISSOURI

SW MISSOURI STATE
SPRINGFIELD, MO
(7-4)
PITTSBURG ST.*
A. 28 JACKSONVILLE ST.
S. 13 MCNEESE ST.*
S. 20 TENN.-MARTIN*
O. 4 S. ILLINOIS
O. 11 INDIANA ST.*
O. 18 ILLINOIS ST.*
O. 25 W. ILLINOIS
N. 1 NORTHERN IOWA*
N. 8 ARKANSAS ST.
N. 15 YOUNGSTOWN ST.

WESTERN ILLINOIS
MACOMB, ILL.
(9-3)
E. ILLINOIS*
A. 28 TRUMAN ST.*
S. 13 ALCON ST.
S. 20 MARSHALL
O. 4 SOUTHERN UTAH
O. 11 NORTHERN IOWA*
O. 18 INDIANA ST.
O. 25 SW MISSOURI*
N. 1 S. ILLINOIS*
N. 8 ILLINOIS ST.
N. 22 YOUNGSTOWN ST.

YOUNGSTOWN ST.
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO
(8-3)
A. 28 SLIPPERY ROCK*
S. 6 KENT*
S. 20 BOSTON
S. 27 HOFSTRA*
O. 4 INDIANA ST.
O. 11 BUFFALO*
O. 18 NORTHERN IOWA
N. 1 ILLINOIS ST.*
N. 8 S. ILLINOIS
N. 15 SW MISSOURI*
N. 22 W. ILLINOIS*

IVY LEAGUE

BROWN
PROVIDENCE, R.I.
(5-5)
S. 20 YALE
S. 27 LAFAYETTE*
O. 4 FORDHAM
O. 11 PRINCETON*
O. 18 RHODE ISLAND*
O. 25 PENNSYLVANIA
N. 1 CORNELL*
N. 8 HARVARD*
N. 15 DARTMOUTH
N. 22 COLUMBIA*

COLUMBIA
NEW YORK, N.Y.
(8-2)
S. 20 HARVARD
S. 27 TOWSON STATE*
O. 4 LAFAYETTE
O. 11 HOLY CROSS*
O. 18 PENNSYLVANIA*
O. 25 YALE*
N. 1 PRINCETON
N. 8 DARTMOUTH*
N. 15 CORNELL
N. 22 BROWN

CORNELL
ITHACA, N.Y.
(4-6)
S. 20 PRINCETON
S. 27 COLGATE*
O. 4 DARTMOUTH
O. 11 HARVARD*
O. 18 LAFAYETTE*
O. 25 FORDHAM
N. 1 BROWN
N. 8 YALE*
N. 15 COLUMBIA*
N. 22 PENNSYLVANIA

DARTMOUTH
HANOVER, N.H.
(10-0)
S. 20 PENNSYLVANIA
S. 27 HOLY CROSS
O. 4 CORNELL*
O. 11 FORDHAM
O. 18 YALE
O. 25 LEHIGH*
N. 1 HARVARD*
N. 8 COLUMBIA
N. 15 BROWN*
N. 22 PRINCETON*

HARVARD
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.
(4-6)
S. 20 COLUMBIA*
S. 27 BUCKNELL
O. 4 BUCKNELL*
O. 11 CORNELL
O. 18 HOLY CROSS*
O. 25 PRINCETON*
N. 1 DARTMOUTH
N. 8 BROWN
N. 15 PENNSYLVANIA*
N. 22 YALE

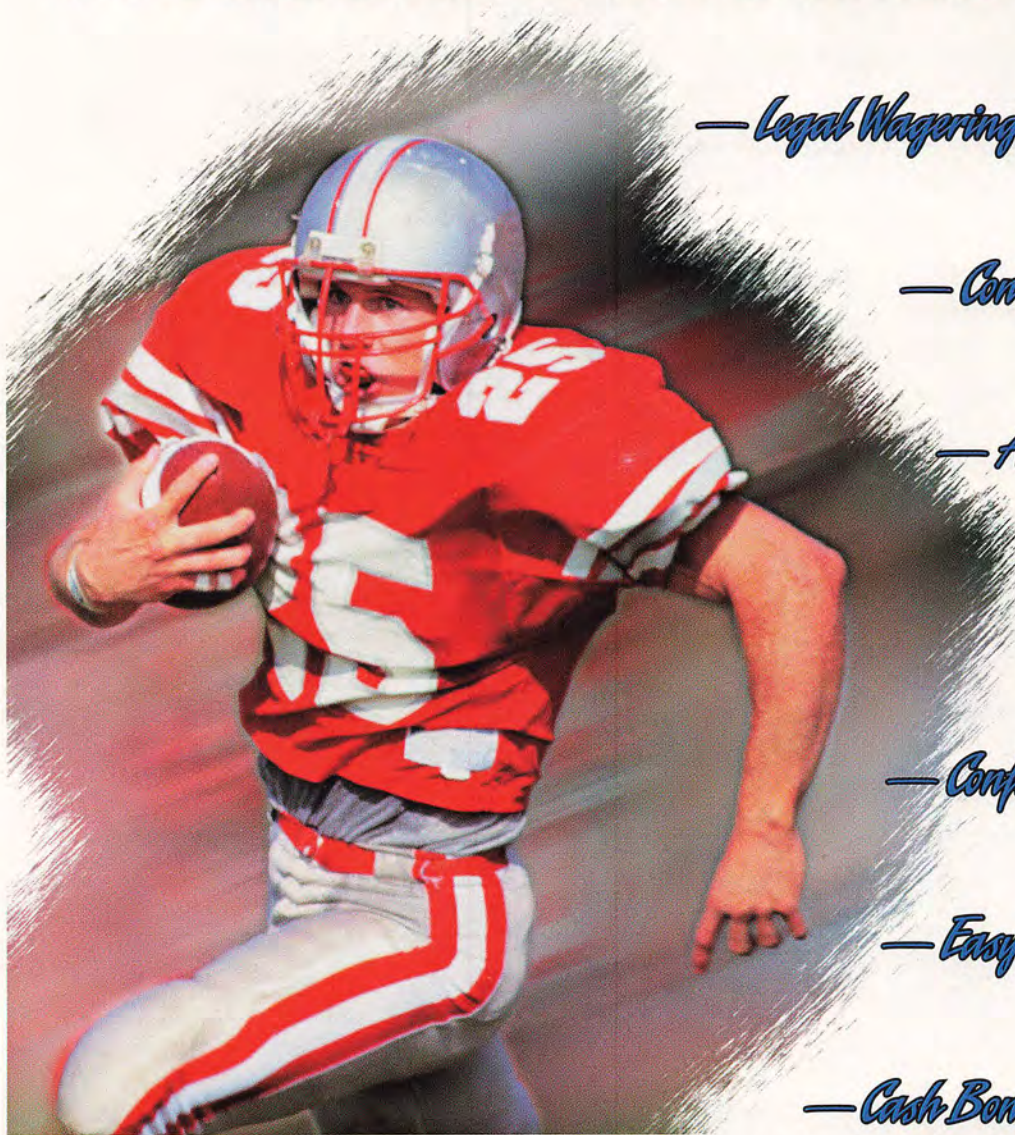
PENNSYLVANIA
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
(5-5)
S. 20 DARTMOUTH*
S. 27 BUCKNELL
O. 4 TOWSON STATE*
O. 11 LEHIGH
O. 18 COLUMBIA
O. 25 BROWN*
N. 1 YALE
N. 8 PRINCETON*
N. 15 HARVARD
N. 22 CORNELL*

PRINCETON
PRINCETON, N.J.
(3-7)
S. 20 CORNELL*
S. 27 FORDHAM
O. 4 HOLY CROSS
O. 11 BROWN
O. 18 COLGATE*
O. 25 HARVARD
N. 1 COLUMBIA*
N. 8 PENNSYLVANIA
N. 15 YALE*
N. 22 DARTMOUTH

YALE
NEW HAVEN, CONN.
(2-8)
S. 20 BROWN*
S. 27 CONNECTICUT*
O. 4 VALPARAISO*
O. 11 BUCKNELL*
O. 18 DARTMOUTH*
O. 25 COLUMBIA
N. 1 PENNSYLVANIA*
N. 8 CORNELL
N. 15 PRINCETON
N. 22 HARVARD*

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1997 college schedules

* Home game

METRO ATLANTIC

CANISUS BUFFALO, N.Y. (5-4)	DUQUESNE PITTSBURGH, PA. (10-1)	FAIRFIELD FAIRFIELD, CONN. (1-8)	GEORGETOWN WASHINGTON, D.C. (7-3)	IONA NEW ROCHELLE, N.Y. (1-9)	MARIST POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y. (7-3)	ST. JOHN'S JAMAICA, N.Y. (6-4)	ST. PETER'S JERSEY CITY, N.J. (2-7)	SIENA LOUDONVILLE, N.Y. (2-7)
S. 13 GANNON*	S. 6 BUCKNELL	S. 20 ST. JOHN'S*	S. 13 MARIST	S. 13 WAGNER	S. 13 GEORGETOWN*	S. 12 CENTRAL CONN.*	S. 12 LASALLE*	S. 20 DUQUESNE
S. 27 ST. PETER'S	S. 13 ST. FRANCIS*	S. 27 GEORGETOWN	S. 20 HOLY CROSS	S. 20 MARIST*	S. 20 IONA	S. 20 FAIRFIELD	S. 20 CANISUS*	S. 27 CANISUS*
S. 27 SIENNA	S. 20 SIENNA*	O. 4 C. CONN. ST.*	S. 27 FAIRFIELD*	S. 27 PACE*	S. 27 ST. PETER'S*	S. 27 STONY BROOK	S. 27 MARIST	O. 4 GEORGETOWN
O. 4 IONA*	O. 4 MARIST	O. 11 DUQUESNE*	O. 4 SIENNA*	O. 4 CANISUS	O. 4 DUQUESNE*	O. 4 ST. PETER'S*	O. 4 ST. JOHN'S	O. 11 IONA*
O. 11 GEORGETOWN*	O. 11 FAIRFIELD	O. 18 MARIST*	O. 11 CANISUS	O. 11 SIENNA	O. 10 ST. JOHN'S	O. 10 MARIST*	O. 11 WAGNER*	O. 18 ST. PETER'S*
O. 18 ALFRED*	O. 18 ST. JOHN'S*	O. 25 CANISUS	O. 18 IONA	O. 18 GEORGETOWN*	O. 18 FAIRFIELD	O. 18 DUQUESNE	O. 18 SIENNA	O. 25 ST. JOHN'S*
O. 25 FAIRFIELD*	O. 25 GEORGETOWN	N. 1 SIENNA*	O. 25 DUQUESNE*	O. 25 ST. PETER'S	O. 25 WAGNER*	O. 25 SIENNA	O. 25 IONA*	N. 1 FAIRFIELD
N. 1 ST. JOHN'S	N. 1 IONA	N. 8 IONA	O. 31 ST. PETER'S	N. 1 DUQUESNE*	N. 1 ST. FRANCIS	N. 1 CANISUS*	O. 31 GEORGETOWN*	N. 8 MARIST
N. 8 MARIST*	N. 8 ST. PETER'S*	N. 15 ST. PETER'S	N. 8 ST. JOHN'S*	N. 8 FAIRFIELD*	N. 8 CANISUS	N. 8 GEORGETOWN	N. 8 DUQUESNE	
N. 15 DUQUESNE	N. 15 CANISUS*		N. 15 FORDHAM*	N. 15 ST. JOHN'S	N. 15 SIENNA*	N. 15 IONA*	N. 15 FAIRFIELD*	
						N. 27 SACRED HEART*		

MID-EASTERN

BETHUNE-COOKMAN DAYTONA BEACH, FLA. (2-9)	DELAWARE STATE DOVER, DEL. (3-8)	FLORIDA A&M TALLAHASSEE, FLA. (9-3)	HAMPTON HAMPTON, VA (5-6)	HOWARD WASHINGTON, D.C. (9-2)	MORGAN STATE BALTIMORE, MD. (4-7)	N. CAROLINA A&T GREENSBORO, N.C. (8-3)	SOUTH CAROLINA ST. ORANGEBURG, S.C. (4-6)
S. 6 MORRIS B.*	S. 6 CHEYNEY U.*	A. 30 TENNESSEE ST.*	A. 30 WM. & MARY	S. 6 JACKSON ST.	S. 6 THE CITADEL	A. 30 NCCU	S. 6 CHAR. SO.*
S. 13 MORGAN STATE*	S. 13 BUFFALO	S. 13 NORFOLK STATE*	S. 13 HOWARD	S. 13 HAMPTON*	S. 13 B-COOKMAN	S. 6 WINSTON	S. 13 FURMAN*
S. 20 FAYETTEVILLE*	S. 20 NORFOLK*	S. 20 JACKSON STATE*	S. 20 N.C. A&T	S. 20 ARK. PINE BLUFF**	S. 20 TEXAS SOUTHERN*	S. 20 HAMPTON*	S. 27 TENNESSEE ST.
S. 27 CHEYNEY U.*	S. 27 LIBERTY*	S. 27 HOWARD	S. 27 GRAMBLING	S. 27 FLORIDA A&M*	S. 27 NORFOLK	O. 4 TENNESSEE ST.	O. 4 MORGAN
O. 4 DELAWARE ST.	O. 4 B-COOKMAN*	O. 11 HAMPTON	O. 4 FLORIDA A&M	O. 11 B-COOKMAN	O. 4 S.C. STATE*	O. 11 FLORIDA A&M*	O. 11 NORFOLK ST.*
O. 11 HOWARD*	O. 18 MORGAN*	O. 11 N.C. A&T	O. 11 LIBERTY	O. 18 MOREHOUSE*	O. 18 N.C. A&T*	O. 18 MORGAN	O. 18 B-COOKMAN
O. 18 S.C. STATE	O. 25 MORGAN*	O. 18 DELAWARE ST.*	O. 18 NORFOLK	O. 25 N.C. A&T	O. 25 DELAWARE ST.	O. 25 HOWARD*	O. 25 HAMPTON
N. 1 N.C. A&T*	N. 1 S.C. STATE	N. 1 MORGAN	O. 25 S.C. STATE	N. 1 NORFOLK	N. 1 FLORIDA A&M*	N. 1 B-COOKMAN	N. 1 DELAWARE ST.*
N. 8 HAMPTON*	N. 8 N.C. A&T	N. 8 SOUTHERN U.*	N. 8 B-COOKMAN	N. 8 S.C. STATE*	N. 8 CENTRAL O.*	N. 8 DELAWARE ST.*	N. 8 HOWARD
N. 15 NORFOLK	N. 15 HAMPTON	N. 15 S.C. STATE	N. 15 DELAWARE ST.*	N. 15 MORGAN	N. 15 HOWARD*	N. 15 TENNESSEE ST.*	N. 15 FLORIDA A&M*
N. 22 FLORIDA A&M	N. 22 HOWARD*	N. 22 B-COOKMAN	N. 22 MORGAN*	N. 22 DELAWARE ST. %ST. LOUIS	N. 22 HAMPTON	N. 22 S.C. STATE	N. 22 N.C. A&T

NORTHEAST

CENTRAL CONN. ST. NEW BRITAIN, CT. (3-7)	MONMOUTH W. LONG BRANCH, N.J. (7-3)	ROBERT MORRIS CORAPOLIS, PA. (9-2)	ST. FRANCIS LORETO, PA. (3-7)	WAGNER STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. (5-5)
S. 6 ALBANY*	S. 6 TOWSON STATE	S. 6 BUFFALO ST.*	S. 6 WAYNESBURG	S. 13 IONA*
S. 12 ST. JOHN'S	S. 13 DAYTON	S. 13 BUTLER*	S. 13 DUQUESNE	S. 20 C.W. POST*
S. 20 FROSTBURG*	S. 20 LASALLE*	S. 20 DAYTON*	S. 20 BUTLER*	S. 27 ST. FRANCIS*
S. 27 ROBERT MORRIS*	O. 4 NEW HAVEN*	S. 27 CENTRAL CONN.	S. 27 WAGNER	O. 4 ROBERT MORRIS
O. 4 FAIRFIELD	O. 18 ST. FRANCIS	O. 4 WAGNER*	O. 4 MERCYHURST	O. 11 ST. PETER'S
O. 11 ST. FRANCIS	O. 25 ROBERT MORRIS*	O. 18 TOWSON STATE	O. 11 CENTRAL CONN.*	O. 18 CENTRAL CONN.*
O. 18 WAGNER	N. 1 SACRED HEART	O. 25 MONMOUTH	O. 18 MONMOUTH*	O. 25 MARIST
O. 25 LASALLE	N. 8 WAGNER*	N. 1 MERCYHURST*	O. 25 GANNON*	N. 1 STONY BROOK*
N. 8 S. CONN. ST.*	N. 15 CENTRAL CONN.	N. 8 ST. FRANCIS*	N. 1 MARIST*	N. 8 MONMOUTH
N. 15 MONMOUTH*		N. 15 GANNON	N. 15 ROBERT MORRIS	N. 15 SAN DIEGO
			N. 15 LASALLE	

OHIO VALLEY

EASTERN ILLINOIS CHARLESTON, ILL. (8-4)	EASTERN TENNESSEE RICHMOND, KY. (6-5)	MIDDLE TENNESSEE MURFREESBORO, TENN. (6-5)	MURRAY STATE MURRAY, KY. (11-2)	SE MISSOURI ST. CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO. (3-8)	TENNESSEE STATE NASHVILLE, TENN. (4-7)	TENNESSEE TECH COOKEVILLE, TENN. (5-6)	TENN. MARTIN MARTIN, TENN. (1-10)
A. 28 W. ILLINOIS	S. 6 TROY STATE	S. 6 TENN. STATE@	A. 28 INDIANA ST.*	A. 30 LAMBETH*	A. 30 FLORIDA A&M	S. 6 TENN. CHATT.	A. 28 WESTERN KY.*
S. 6 TENN. MARTIN*	S. 13 WESTERN KY.*	S. 13 UT-CHATTANOOGA	S. 6 WESTERN KY.	S. 13 ILLINOIS STATE	S. 6 MIDDLE TENN. @	S. 20 SAMFORD	S. 6 E. ILLINOIS
S. 13 ST. JOSEPH'S*	S. 20 APPALACHIAN ST.	S. 27 MURRAY ST.*	S. 13 S. ILLINOIS	S. 20 MURRAY ST.	S. 13 JACKSON ST.*	S. 27 E. ILLINOIS*	S. 20 SW MISSOURI
S. 20 ILLINOIS STATE	S. 27 AUSTIN PEAY*	O. 4 JACKSONVILLE ST.*	S. 20 SE MISSOURI*	S. 27 TENN. MARTIN	S. 27 S. CAROLINA ST.#	O. 4 AUSTIN PEAY	S. 27 SE MISSOURI*
S. 27 TENNESSEE TECH	O. 11 TENN. MARTIN	O. 11 TENN. MARTIN	S. 27 MIDDLE TENN.	O. 4 E. ILLINOIS*	O. 4 N. CAROLINA A&T*	O. 11 SE MISSOURI*	O. 4 MURRAY ST.*
O. 4 SE MISSOURI	O. 18 MURRAY ST.	O. 18 E. ILLINOIS	O. 4 TENN. MARTIN	O. 11 TENN. TECH*	O. 11 EASTERN KY.*	O. 18 TENN. MARTIN*	O. 11 MIDDLE TENN.*
O. 18 MIDDLE TENN.*	O. 25 TENN. TECH*	O. 25 SE MISSOURI*	O. 11 AUSTIN PEAY*	O. 25 MIDDLE TENN.	O. 18 TENN. CHATT.	O. 25 EASTERN KY.*	O. 18 TENNESSEE TECH
O. 25 AUSTIN PEAY*	N. 1 TENN. MARTIN*	O. 18 AUSTIN PEAY*	O. 18 EASTERN KY.*	N. 1 AUSTIN PEAY	O. 25 TENN. MARTIN	N. 1 MURRAY ST.*	O. 25 TENNESSEE ST.*
N. 1 INDIANA STATE	N. 8 SE MISSOURI*	N. 15 EASTERN KY.	N. 1 TENNESSEE TECH	N. 8 EASTERN KY.*	N. 8 TENNESSEE TECH*	N. 8 TENNESSEE ST.	N. 1 EASTERN KY.
N. 8 MURRAY STATE	N. 15 MIDDLE TENN.*	N. 22 TENNESSEE TECH	N. 8 E. ILLINOIS*	N. 15 S. ILLINOIS*	N. 15 MURRAY ST.*	N. 15 UAB	N. 9 SAMFORD
N. 22 EASTERN KY.*	N. 22 E. ILLINOIS*	@VANDERBILT	N. 15 TENNESSEE ST.	N. 22 TENNESSEE ST.*	N. 22 SE MISSOURI	N. 22 MIDDLE TENN.*	N. 15 AUSTIN PEAY
					@VANDERBILT		
					#MEMPHIS		
					#ATLANTA		
					#INDIANAPOLIS		

PATRIOT

BUCKNELL LEWISBURG, PA. (6-5)	COLGATE HAMILTON, N.Y. (6-5)	FORDHAM BRONX, N.Y. (2-8)	HOLY CROSS WORCHESTER, MASS. (2-9)	LAFAYETTE EASTON, PA. (5-5)	LEHIGH BETHLEHEM, PA. (5-6)	TOWSON STATE TOWSON, MD. (6-4)
S. 6 DUQUESNE*	S. 6 RICHMOND*	S. 6 LAFAYETTE	S. 13 TOWSON ST.	S. 6 FORDHAM*	S. 13 FORDHAM	S. 6 MONMOUTH*
S. 20 LAFAYETTE	S. 20 FORDHAM*	S. 13 LEHIGH*	S. 20 GEORGETOWN*	S. 13 ARMY	S. 20 TOWSON ST.	S. 13 HOLY CROSS*
S. 27 PENNSYLVANIA*	S. 27 CORNELL	S. 20 COLGATE	S. 27 DARTMOUTH*	S. 20 BUCKNELL*	S. 27 HARVARD*	S. 20 LEHIGH*
O. 4 HARVARD	O. 4 LEHIGH*	S. 27 PRINCETON	O. 4 COLUMBIA	O. 4 BROWN*	O. 4 COLGATE	S. 27 COLUMBIA
O. 11 YALE	O. 11 LAFAYETTE	O. 4 BROWN*	O. 11 COLUMBIA	O. 11 COLUMBIA*	O. 11 PENNSYLVANIA*	O. 4 YALE*
O. 18 FORDHAM	O. 18 PRINCETON*	O. 11 DARTMOUTH*	O. 18 HARVARD	O. 11 COLGATE*	O. 18 HOFSTRA	O. 18 ROBERT MORRIS
O. 25 HOLY CROSS*	O. 25 ARMY	O. 18 BUCKNELL*	O. 25 BUCKNELL	O. 18 CORNELL	O. 25 DARTMOUTH	O. 25 LAFAYETTE
N. 1 LEHIGH*	N. 1 HOLY CROSS	O. 25 CORNELL*	N. 1 COLGATE*	O. 25 TOWSON ST.*	N. 1 BUCKNELL	N. 1 FORDHAM
N. 8 ST. MARY'S	N. 8 TOWSON ST.*	N. 1 TOWSON ST.*	N. 8 LEHIGH	N. 1 NEW HAVEN*	N. 8 HOLY CROSS*	N. 8 COLGATE
N. 15 TOWSON ST.	N. 15 NAVY	N. 15 GEORGETOWN	N. 15 LAFAYETTE*	N. 15 HOLY CROSS	N. 15 DELAWARE*	N. 15 BUCKNELL*
N. 22 COLGATE	N. 22 BUCKNELL*	N. 22 HOLY CROSS	N. 22 FORDHAM*	N. 22 LEHIGH	N. 2 LAFAYETTE*	

PIONEER

BUTLER INDIANAPOLIS, IND. (3-7)	DAYTON DAYTON, OH (11-0)	DRAKE DES MOINES, IA (8-3)	EVANSVILLE EVANSVILLE, IND. (5-5)	SAN DIEGO SAN DIEGO, CALIF. (4-6)	VALPARAISO VALPARAISO, IND. (4-6)
S. 6 HOWARD PHOENIX	S. 6 GEORGETOWN	S. 6 MORNINGSIDE	S. 13 CUMBERLAND*	S. 6 AZUSA PACIFIC*	S. 6 HOPE*
S. 13 ROBERT MORRIS*	S. 13 MONMOUTH*	S. 13 ST. NORBERT*	S. 13 QUINCY*	S. 13 ST. MARY'S (CA)*	S. 13 ALMA
S. 20 ST. FRANCIS	S. 20 ROBERT MORRIS	S. 20 S. FLORIDA	S. 27 MCKENDREE*	S. 20 MOREHEAD ST.	S. 20 MOREHEAD ST.
S. 27 CLINCH VALLEY*	S. 27 MOREHEAD STATE	S. 27 VALPARAISO	O. 4 SAN DIEGO	S. 27 CAL LUTHERAN	S. 27 DRAKE*
O. 4 DAYTON	O. 4 BUTLER*	O. 4 WAYNE STATE	O. 11 VALPARAISO	O. 4 EVANSVILLE	O. 4 YALE*
O. 11 SAN DIEGO	O. 11 DRAKE	O. 11 DAYTON*	O. 18 DRAKE	O. 11 BUTLER*	O. 11 EVANSVILLE*
O. 18 VALPARAISO*	O. 18 SAN DIEGO*	O. 18 EVANSVILLE*	O. 25 BUTLER*	O. 18 DAYTON	O. 18 BUTLER
O. 25 EVANSVILLE	O. 25 VALPARAISO*	O. 25 SAN DIEGO	N. 1 DAYTON	O. 25 DRAKE*	O. 25 DAYTON
N. 1 COLOGNE*	N. 1 EVANSVILLE*	N. 1 AURORA*	N. 8 KY. WESLEYAN*	N. 1 VALPARAISO	N. 1 SAN DIEGO*
N. 8 DRAKE*	N. 15 CAL POLY	N. 8 BUTLER	N. 15 MOREHEAD ST.	N. 8 WHITTIER	N. 8 AURORA
N. 15 ST. JOSEPH'S*		N. 15 NORTHWESTERN*		N. 15 WAGNER*	@SOLDIER FIELD, CHICAGO

1997 college schedules

* Home game

SOUTHERN

APPALACHIAN ST. BOONE, N.C. (7-4)

S. 6 CLEMSON
S.20 E. KENTUCKY*
S.27 THE CITADEL
O. 4 E. TENN. ST.*
O.11 FURMAN
O.18 GA. SOUTHERN*
O.25 WOFFORD
N. 1 TENN.-CHATT.*
N. 8 VMI
N.15 W. CAROLINA*
N.22 LIBERTY*

THE CITADEL CHARLESTON, S.C. (4-7)

S. 6 MORGAN STATE*
S.12 SOUTH FLORIDA*
S.20 W. CAROLINA
S.27 APPALACHIAN ST.*
O. 4 AIR FORCE
O.11 E. TENN. ST.
O.18 FURMAN*
O.25 GA. SOUTHERN
N. 1 WOFFORD*
N. 8 TENN.-CHATT.
N.15 VMI*

E. TENNESSEE ST. JOHNSON CITY, TENN. (10-3)

A.28 CHARLESTON SOU.*
S. 6 ELON*
S.13 JAMES MADISON
S.27 W. CAROLINA*
O. 4 APPALACHIAN ST.
O.11 THE CITADEL*
O.25 FURMAN
N. 1 GA. SOUTHERN*
N. 8 WOFFORD
N.15 TENN.-CHATT.*
N.22 VMI

FURMAN GREENVILLE, S.C. (9-4)

S. 6 SAMFORD
S.13 S.C. STATE
S.27 VMI*
O. 4 W. CAROLINA
O.11 APPALACHIAN ST.*
O.18 THE CITADEL
O.25 E. TENN. ST.*
N. 1 ELON*
N. 8 GA. SOUTHERN
N.15 WOFFORD*
N.22 TENN.-CHATT.

GEORGIA SOUTHERN STATESBORO, GA. (4-7)

A.30 VALDOSTA ST.*
S. 6 WM. & MARY*
S.20 WOFFORD
S.27 TENN.-CHATT.*
O. 4 VMI
O.11 W. CAROLINA*
O.18 APPALACHIAN ST.
O.25 THE CITADEL*
N. 1 E. TENN. ST.
N. 8 FURMAN*
N.15 SOUTH FLORIDA

TENN.-CHATT. CHATTANOOGA, TENN. (3-8)

S. 6 TENNESSEE TECH*
S.13 MIDDLE TENN*
S.27 GA. SOUTHERN
O. 4 WOFFORD*
O.11 VMI
O.18 TENNESSEE ST.*
O.25 W. CAROLINA*
N. 1 APPALACHIAN ST.
N. 8 THE CITADEL*
N.15 E. TENN. ST.
N.22 FURMAN*

VMI LEXINGTON, VA (3-8)

S. 6 WOFFORD
S.13 WM. & MARY*
S.20 RICHMOND
S.27 FURMAN
O. 4 GA. SOUTHERN*
O.11 TENN.-CHATT.*
O.18 NAVY
N. 1 W. CAROLINA
N. 8 APPALACHIAN ST.*
N.15 THE CITADEL
N.22 E. TENN. ST.*

WESTERN CAROLINA CULLOWHEE, N.C. (4-7)

S.13 LIBERTY*
S.20 THE CITADEL*
S.27 E. TENN. ST.
O. 4 FURMAN*
O.11 GA. SOUTHERN
O.18 WOFFORD*
O.25 TENN.-CHATT.
N. 1 VMI*
N. 8 ELON COLLEGE
N.15 APPALACHIAN ST.
N.22 SAMFORD

WOFFORD COLLEGE SPARTANBURG, S.C. (6-5)

S. 6 VMI*
S.20 GA. SOUTHERN*
O. 4 TENN.-CHATT.
O.11 MOREHEAD ST.
O.18 W. CAROLINA
O.25 APPALACHIAN ST.*
N. 1 THE CITADEL
N. 8 E. TENN. ST.*
N.15 FURMAN
N.22 CHARLESTON SO.*

SOUTHLAND

JACKSONVILLE STATE JACKSONVILLE, FLA. (1-9)

S. 6 SW MISSOURI ST.*
S.20 SAM HOUSTON ST.
S.20 UAB
S.27 McNEESE ST.*
O. 4 MIDDLE TENN.
O.11 S.F. AUSTIN
O.25 NICHOLLS ST.*
N. 1 SAMFORD
N. 8 NORTHWESTERN ST.
N.15 S.W. TEXAS ST.
N.22 TROY STATE

McNEESE STATE LAKE CHARLES, LA. (3-8)

S. 6 SE OKLAHOMA*
S.13 SW MISSOURI
S.20 NORTH IOWA*
S.27 JACKSONVILLE ST.*
O. 4 ARKANSAS TECH*
O.11 N.W. TEXAS ST.*
O.25 S.F. AUSTIN
N. 1 SAM HOUSTON ST.*
N. 8 S.W. TEXAS ST.
N.15 TROY STATE*
N.22 NICHOLLS ST.

NICHOLLS STATE THIBODAUX, LA. (8-4)

A.30 NE LOUISIANA
S. 6 S. ILLINOIS*
S.20 TROY STATE*
S.27 NORTHWESTERN ST.
O. 4 SAMFORD*
O.11 S.W. TEXAS ST.*
O.18 SAM HOUSTON ST.
O.25 JACKSONVILLE ST.
N. 1 SOUTHERN
N.15 S.F. AUSTIN
N.22 McNEESE STATE*

NORTHWESTERN ST. NATCHITOCHES, LA. (6-5)

S. 6 SOUTHERN
S.13 HENDERSON ST.*
S.27 NICHOLLS ST.*
O. 4 NE LOUISIANA
O.11 McNEESE STATE
O.18 S.W. TEXAS ST.*
O.25 ARKANSAS TECH*
N. 1 TROY STATE
N. 8 JACKSONVILLE ST.*
N.15 SAM HOUSTON ST.
N.20 S.F. AUSTIN*

SAM HOUSTON ST. HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS (4-7)

A.30 ANGELO STATE*
S. 6 TEXAS A&M
S.13 JACKSONVILLE ST.*
S.20 ARK. MONTICELLO*
S.27 TEXAS SOUTHERN
O.11 TROY STATE
O.18 NICHOLLS ST.*
N. 1 McNEESE STATE
N. 8 S.F. AUSTIN*
N.15 NORTHWESTERN ST.*
N.22 S.W. TEXAS ST.

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS (7-4)

A.28 W. TEXAS A&M*
S. 6 DELTA STATE*
S.13 MONTANA
S.27 NEW HAMPSHIRE*
O.11 JACKSONVILLE ST.*
O.18 TROY STATE
O.25 McNEESE STATE*
N. 1 S.W. TEXAS ST.*
N. 8 SAM HOUSTON ST.
N.15 NICHOLLS ST.*
N.20 NORTHWESTERN ST.

SW TEXAS STATE SAN MARCOS, TEXAS (5-6)

S. 4 SACRAMENTO ST.*
S.13 HOFSTRA
S.20 MONTANA ST.*
O. 4 TROY STATE*
O.11 NICHOLLS ST.
O.18 NORTHWESTERN ST.
O.25 SOUTHERN UTAH*
N. 1 S.F. AUSTIN
N. 8 McNEESE STATE*
N.15 JACKSONVILLE ST.
N.22 SAM HOUSTON ST.*

TROY STATE TROY, AL. (12-1)

A.30 ALCORN ST.*
S. 6 E. KENTUCKY*
S.13 ALABAMA ST.
S.20 NICHOLLS ST.
O. 4 SW TEXAS ST.
O.11 SAM HOUSTON ST.*
O.18 S.F. AUSTIN ST.*
O.25 SAMFORD
N. 1 NORTHWESTERN ST.*
N.15 McNEESE ST.
N.22 JACKSONVILLE ST.*

SWAC

ALABAMA STATE MONTGOMERY, ALA. (3-8)

A.31 JACKSON ST.
S. 6 TEXAS SOUTHERN
S.13 TROY STATE*
S.20 ALCORN ST.*
S.27 ARK.-PINE BLUFF
O. 4 SOUTHERN*
O.18 PRAIRIE VIEW*
O.25 ALABAMA A&M
S.27 GRAMBLING*
N.15 MISS. VALLEY ST.
N.27 TUSKEGEE*

ALCORN STATE LORMAN, MISS. (4-7)

A.30 TROY STATE
S. 6 GRAMBLING*
S.13 W. ILLINOIS*
S.20 ALABAMA ST.
S.27 SAMFORD*
O. 4 ARK.-PINE BLUFF*
O.11 PRAIRIE VIEW*
O.18 TEXAS SOUTHERN
O.25 SOUTHERN
N. 8 MISS. VALLEY*
N.22 JACKSON ST.
@LITTLE ROCK

ARK.-PINE BLUFF PINE BLUFF, ARK. (5-5)

A.30 LANE@
S. 6 MISS. VALLEY*
S.13 SOUTHERN
S.20 HOWARD*
S.27 ALABAMA ST.*
O. 4 ALCORN ST.*
O.11 TEXAS SOUTHERN*
O.18 GRAMBLING*
O.25 LAMOSTON*
N. 1 JACKSON ST.
N. 8 PRAIRIE VIEW A&M
@LITTLE ROCK
#ST. LOUIS
#SHREVEPORT

GRAMBLING GRAMBLING, LA. (3-8)

S. 6 ALCORN ST.
S.27 LANGSTON
S.27 HAMPTON
O. 4 PRAIRIE VIEW
O.11 MISS. VALLEY*
O.18 ARK.-PINE BLUFF*
O.25 JACKSON ST.
N. 1 TEXAS SOUTHERN*
N. 8 ALABAMA ST.
N.15 N. CAROLINA A&T*
N.29 SOUTHERN
#SHREVEPORT

JACKSON STATE JACKSON, MISS. (10-2)

A.31 ALABAMA ST.
S. 6 HOWARD*
S.13 TENNESSEE ST.
S.20 FLORIDA A&M
S.27 MISS. VALLEY ST.*
O. 4 TEXAS SOUTHERN
O.18 SOUTHERN*
O.25 GRAMBLING*
N. 1 ARK.-PINE BLUFF*
N.15 PRAIRIE VIEW
N.22 ALCORN ST.*

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY ITTA BENA, MISS. (7-4)

A.30 SOUTHERN*
S. 6 ARK.-PINE BLUFF*
S.20 ALABAMA A&M*
S.27 JACKSON ST.
O.11 GRAMBLING
O.18 LANE
O.25 TEXAS SOUTHERN*
N. 1 PRAIRIE VIEW
N. 8 ALCORN ST.
N.15 ALABAMA ST.*
@ DALLAS, TEXAS

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M PRAIRIE VIEW, TEXAS (0-11)

A.30 TEXAS SOUTHERN
S.13 LANGSTON*
S.20 SOUTHERN
S.27 SUI RUSS
O. 4 GRAMBLING
O.11 ALCORN ST.
O.18 ALABAMA ST.
O.25 CENTRAL ST.
N. 1 MISS. VALLEY*
N. 8 ARK.-PINE BLUFF*
N.15 JACKSON ST.*

SOUTHERN BATON ROUGE, LA. (7-4)

A.30 MISS. VALLEY ST.*
S. 6 W. ILLINOIS ST.*
S.13 ARK.-PINE BLUFF*
S.20 PRAIRIE VIEW A&M*
O. 4 ALABAMA ST.
O.18 JACKSON ST.
O.25 ALCORN ST.*
N. 1 NICHOLLS ST.*
N. 8 FLORIDA A&M
N.15 TEXAS SOUTHERN
N.29 GRAMBLING
@ DALLAS, TEXAS

TEXAS SOUTHERN HOUSTON, TEXAS (7-4)

PRAIRIE VIEW*
S. 6 ALABAMA ST.*
S.20 MORGAN ST.
S.27 SAM HOUSTON ST.*
O. 4 JACKSON ST.*
O.11 ARK.-PINE BLUFF
O.18 ALCORN ST.*
O.25 MISS. VALLEY ST.
N. 1 GRAMBLING
N. 8 LANE*
N.15 SOUTHERN*

I-AA INDEPENDENTS

AUSTIN PEAY CLARKSVILLE, TENN. (1-10)

S. 6 MOREHEAD ST.
S.13 SAMFORD*
S.20 WESTERN KY.
S.27 EASTERN KY.
O. 4 TENNESSEE TECH*
O.11 MURRAY ST.
O.25 E. ILLINOIS
N. 1 SE MISSOURI*
N. 8 MIDDLE TENN.
N.15 TENN.-MARTIN*

BUFFALO BUFFALO, NEW YORK (5-6)

A.30 LOCK HAVEN*
S. 6 ILLINOIS ST.
S.13 DELAWARE ST.*
S.20 OHIO
S.27 WEST CHESTER U.*
O. 4 CONNECTICUT
O.11 YOUNGSTOWN ST.
O.18 MASSACHUSETTS*
O.25 HOFSTRA*
N. 8 MAINE*
N.15 VILLANOVA

CAL POLY SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIF. (5-6)

S. 6 UC DAVIS
S.13 W. MONTANA*
S.20 W. NEW MEXICO*
S.27 SAINT MARY'S (CA)
O. 4 NEW MEXICO ST.
O.11 SIMON FRASER*
O.25 NORTHERN IOWA*
N. 1 LIBERTY
N. 8 MONTANA ST.
N.15 DAYTON*
N.22 SACRAMENTO ST.*

CHARLESTON SOUTHERN CHARLESTON, S.C. (2-8)

A.28 EAST TENN. ST.
S. 6 S.C. STATE
S.13 PRESBYTERIAN*
S.20 TUSCULUM*
S.27 CATAWBA*
O.11 NEWBERRY
O.18 SUE BENNETT*
O.25 LIBERTY*
N. 1 S. FLORIDA
N. 8 MOREHEAD ST.
N.22 WOFFORD

HOFSTRA HAMPSTEAD, N.Y. (5-6)

S. 6 BOSTON*
S.13 SW TEXAS ST.*
S.20 CONNECTICUT*
S.27 YOUNGSTOWN ST.
O. 4 RHODE ISLAND
O.11 NEW HAMPSHIRE
O.18 LEHIGH*
O.25 BUFFALO
N.15 MASSACHUSETTS
N.15 LIBERTY
N.22 MAINE*

LIBERTY LYNCHBURG, VA. (5-6)

S. 6 GLENVILLE ST.*
S.13 W. CAROLINA
S.27 DELAWARE ST.
O. 4 ELON*
O.11 HAMPTON*
O.25 CHARLESTON SO.
N. 1 CAL POLY*
N. 8 NORFOLK ST.
N.15 HOFSTRA*
N.22 APPALACHIAN ST.

MOREHEAD STATE MOREHEAD, KY. (6-4)

S. 6 AUSTIN PEAY*
S.20 VALPARAISO*
S.27 DAYTON*
O. 4 SOUTH FLORIDA
O.11 WOFFORD*
O.25 ST. JOSEPH'S - IND.
N. 1 WESTERN KY.
N. 8 CHARLESTON SOU.*
N.15 EVANSVILLE*

SAMFORD BIRMINGHAM, ALA. (6-5)

S. 6 FURMAN*
S.13 AUSTIN PEAY
S.20 TENNESSEE TECH*
S.27 ALCORN STATE
O. 4 NICHOLLS ST.
O.11 CENTRAL FLORIDA
O.25 TROY STATE*
N. 1 JACKSONVILLE ST.*
N. 8 TENN.-MARTIN
N.15 ELON*
N.22 W. CAROLINA*

SOUTHERN UTAH CEDAR CITY, UT. (4-7)

A.30 ILLINOIS STATE*
S. 6 FORT LEWIS*
S.13 WEBER STATE
S.20 ARKANSAS ST.
S.27 MONTANA TECH*
O. 4 W. ILLINOIS*
O.18 IDAHO STATE
O.25 SW TEXAS
N. 1 UC DAVIS*
N. 8 NORTHERN IOWA
N.15 ST. MARY'S

ST. MARY'S MORAGA, CALIF. (7-3)

S. 6 NORTHEASTERN*
S.13 SAN DIEGO
S.20 MONTANA
S.27 CAL POLY SLO*
O. 4 HUMBOLDT ST.
O.11 PORTLAND ST.
O.18 CHAPMAN
O.25 UC DAVIS*
N. 8 BUCKNELL*
N.15 S. UTAH*

WESTERN KENTUCKY BOWLING GREEN, KY. (7-4)

A.28 TENN.-MARTIN
S. 6 MURRAY STATE*
S.13 E. KENTUCKY
S.20 AUSTIN PEAY*
O. 4 UAB
O.25 S. ILLINOIS
N. 1 MOREHEAD ST.*
N. 8 INDIANA ST.



Montana QB
Brian Ah Yat

Herd Gone, Grizzlies in Hunt

by RICK BAILEY
Lexington Herald-Leader

Marshall University's Herd thundered into immortality in last year's finals as possibly the best team Division I-AA has ever seen with a 49-29 stampede of previously undefeated (14-0) defending champion Montana. Marshall finished 1996 with a 15-0 record and a fond farewell to its erstwhile playmates — the Thundering Herd joins Division I-A as a member of the Mid-American Conference effective this season. Montana may now reclaim the mantle of which it was so unceremoniously stripped that dark December day on Marshall's home turf.

1. Montana

It may be unfair to pick the Grizzlies to win their second Division I-AA title in three years. After all, 10 starters on defense, three interior offensive linemen and an All-America receiver (Joe Douglass) have departed.

But quarterback Brian Ah Yat returns for his junior season. In his first year at the helm he threw for 3,615 yards and 42 touchdowns in the regular season. "He made good decisions and was very poised," says coach Mick Dennehy, who guided the Griz to a 14-1 record in his Montana debut. "And Brian will get better."

Junior Josh Brannen, a 1,000-yard rusher (including the playoffs) last year, leads a deep backfield featuring Montana's top four runners. Tackles Jason Baker (6-7, 325, senior) and Scott Curry (6-5, 275, junior) return on the offensive front.

"We may be more talented in our front seven (on defense), but we're just young," Dennehy says. Montana also must replace its secondary.

And the returnee on defense for the Grizzlies? All-America senior linebacker Jason Crebo.

2. William & Mary

Junior quarterback Mike Cook and senior tailback Alvin Porch made the last All-Yankee Conference team as the Tribe (10-3) reached the second round of the playoffs. Cook passed for more than 3,100 yards and 26 touchdowns, and Porch exceeded 1,200 yards on the ground.

Wide receiver Dave Conklin was the Yankee Conference Rookie of the Year. Any awards this fall will be from the Atlantic 10 Football Conference.

Senior guard Dan Rossettini (6-2, 295) and junior tackle Greg Whirley (6-1, 280) anchor the line.

End Luke Cullinane (6-3, 240) and linebacker Jude Waddy, both seniors, will lead a veteran defense.

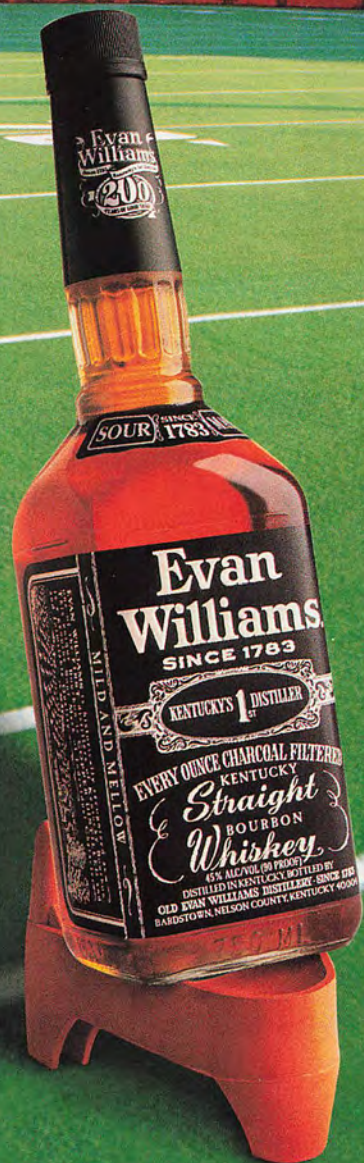
3. Troy State

The Trojans (12-2) won the Southland Football League title in their first year and reached the playoff semifinals.

Troy lost its quarterback (Stan Davis) and seven starters on defense, including the secondary.

Coach Larry Blakeney does return fullback Joe Jack-

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Division I-AA preview



William & Mary QB
Mike Cook

The College of William & Mary

son, Troy's career touchdown leader. The offensive line also could be a strength, according to the coach.

The defensive front is solid, while nine Trojans are in the mix at linebacker.

"We signed a boatload of players," Blakeney says. "Some will have to play quickly."

4. Appalachian State

The Mountaineers dropped to 7-4 last fall and lost 22 seniors, including All-America linebacker Dexter Coakley.

Bake Baker took over at quarterback at midseason, and coach Jerry Moore says the senior is the best passer he's had.

Gerard Hardy, who was the quarterback, will use his speed and quickness at tailback.

Shawn Clark (6-5, 275, senior) is a two-time All-Southern Conference offensive tackle and the lone returnee up front. Cedrone Hodges (6-2, 274, junior) has crossed the line from defense, where the secondary is intact, and senior Jackie Avery (6-2, 255) returns on the line.

5. Youngstown State

The Gateway Conference opened its gates and let the Penguins in, and they are ready to compete.

"We made significant improvement last

year (to 8-3)," coach Jim Tressel says, "and we're capable of having a very good team."

Youngstown returns significant numbers up front on both sides of the line. Veterans are not plentiful in the skill positions, but they have some experience.

Senior Demond Tidwell returns at quarterback, while sophomore Adrian Brown and junior Jake Andreadis share time at tailback. Senior tackles Todd Kollar (6-5, 300) and Matt Hogg (6-5, 305) anchor the line.

Senior lineman Harry Deligianis (6-5, 295) and senior linebacker Tom Paolucci star on defense.

6. Eastern Illinois

The Panthers (8-4)

reached the playoffs in their first year in the Ohio Valley Conference, but they must rebuild both front lines if they are to make the 16-team field this fall.

"I feel we have competent replacements, but that might be wishful thinking," coach Bob Spoo says.

Mike Simpson, a "tough-minded guy" who successfully made the transition from Division III, according to Spoo, returns for his senior season at quarterback. Leading rusher Justin Lynch, a junior, also is back.

Senior Rodney Wilson leads a wealth of defensive returnees at linebacker, his position, and in the secondary.

7. Delaware

Sophomore Brian Ginn is the heir apparent at quarterback for the Blue Hens (8-4), but redshirt freshman Matt Nagy will challenge him. Junior fullback Andre Thompson returns.

The defense is loaded with veterans. "If we win," coach Tubby Raymond says, "we'll be riding on the coattails of our defense."

8. Northern Arizona

Seventeen starters return for the 9-3 Lumberjacks, even though Payton Award

winner Archie Amerson has departed.

But quarterback Travis Brown had the best freshman season in NCAA history with 3,398 yards and 23 touchdown passes. Senior Ricky Pearsall and junior Gibbons St. Paul will be his primary receivers. Senior All-America Dan Finn (6-4, 305) plays anywhere on the offensive line.

9. Southern

Junior running back Steve Wofford was SWAC Newcomer of the Year, and punter Matt Bushhart was Freshman of the Year. Tailback Melvin Williams was Offensive Player of the Year in 1995 but didn't play last fall.

Linemen Robert Walker (6-2, 275, senior) and Joe Williams (6-6, 235, junior) defend for the 7-5 Jaguars.

10. McNeese State

The Cowboys lost 16 starters and went 3-8 last fall. Junior quarterback Tim Leger has a year of experience. All the receivers and tight end Chris Fontenot (6-3, 240) return.

The defense has improved, and coach Bobby Keasler expects help from some junior college transfers.

11. Furman

Eight starters return on defense for the 9-4 Paladins, led by linebackers Orlando Ruff (junior), Bernie Scott (senior) and Jay Thier (senior). Senior Chris Jonas and freshman Justin Hill will compete at quarterback. Senior Mark Moore returns at tailback.

12. Howard

MEAC player of the year Ted White, a junior, returns at quarterback. Senior MacArthur Johnson is one of his targets. Offensive linemen Lamar Young (6-5, 295, junior) and Fred Ray (6-3, 290, senior) and defensive tackle Marques Douglas (6-2, 265) are keys for the 10-2 Bison.

13. Stephen F. Austin

Sophomore Peyton Jones or freshman Travis Fallon will likely quarterback the Lumberjacks (7-4). Junior tailback Pat House is the top runner. Junior Jeremiah Trotter stands out at linebacker. Curtis James (6-1, 239, senior) and David Carmona (6-0, 275, senior) lead the defensive front.

14. Western Illinois

Senior Jeff Hecklinski will start his third year at quarterback for the 9-3 Leather-necks. Five candidates seek the tailback spot. Junior Ty Locatelli has the right temperament and personality at linebacker, according to coach Randy Ball.

15. Villanova

Senior running back Curtis Sifford last year became the Wildcats' first 1,000-yard rusher. Sophomore Chris Boden or freshman Chris Gicking will be the new quarterback. Senior receiver Brian Finneran was a second-team Associated Press All-American. The offensive line is the biggest question mark.

16. Jackson State

SWAC player of the year Grailyn Pratt is the senior quarterback who threw for 2,600 yards and 22 touchdowns last season. Senior Carlos Knight is the top runner. Senior tackle Toby Myles (6-6, 335) heads a veteran offensive line. Senior cornerback Quincy Coleman and senior linebacker Charles Crawford head the defense.

17. Eastern Kentucky

The Colonels missed the playoffs for only the third time in I-AA history. They have holes to fill and might give sophomore Scooter Asel, an All-OVC corner, a shot at quarterback. Senior Bobby Washington and junior Rondel Menendez are speedy receivers. Seniors Britt Bowen and Chris Guyton are other top defenders.

18. Northern Iowa

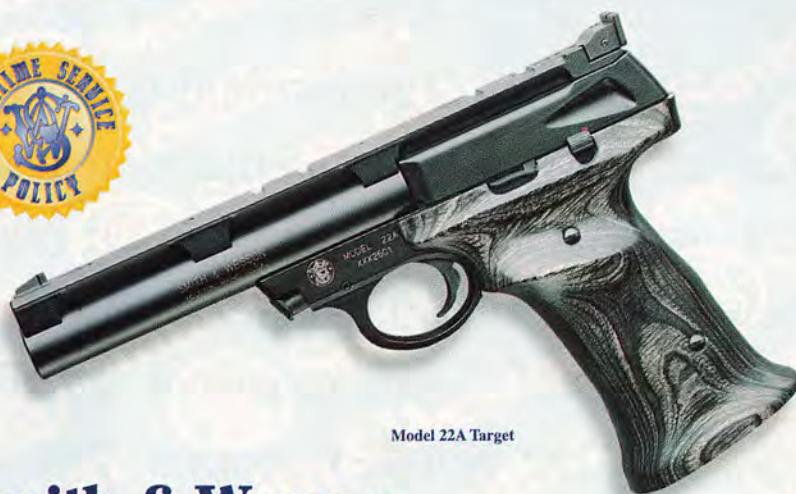
The Panthers won (or shared) their seventh straight Gateway championship. Thirteen starters return, but probable quarterback Jason Jones saw little action. The top two runners are gone, but the offensive line is mostly intact for new coach Mike Dunbar. Last year's four top tacklers have departed.

19. Chattanooga

Sixteen starters return for the Moccasins, including junior quarterback Brian Hampton (1,425 yards) and junior fullback Tyrone Coleman. Junior Stephon Hawkins is the leading receiver back from a team of 49 freshmen and sophomores. Chattanooga is expected to improve on a disappointing 3-8 record.

20. Lafayette

The Leopards hope to get the Patriot League's first automatic playoff bid. Sophomore Mike Palos is expected to be the quarterback. Junior Leonard Moore is at tailback. Damian Wroblewski (6-2, 290, junior) is the center. Senior defensive captains are linebacker Dan Bengel (6-5, 265) and end Craig Hansen (6-4, 260). ■



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Tailgating

AMERICA



David Preston

Arriving hours before kickoff for a college football game has become as much of an American tradition as the game itself. And while tailgating is embraced by fans everywhere, each school has developed a set of traditions unique to itself. Some practical ideas, like the South Carolina Cockabooses, can be traced directly to an individual entrepreneur. Some stories, such as the Iowa ketchup philanthropist, become statewide legends that grow with time. So whether you are enjoying a burger to the sounds of the



John Betancourt



Chris Carroll

Stanford band or devouring your third hot dog to the thunder of fighter jet flybys, you're taking part in the most fan-friendly pregame show around — tailgating.

SOUTH CAROLINA TAILGATING

by Mark Hopkins, *photos by* Chris Carroll



In the South, certain things were meant to go together, like black-eyed peas and corn bread, iced tea and a big porch, and tailgating and football at the University of South Carolina.

For nearly every home football game over the last 10 years, Kermit LaForce has driven his RV full of Gamecock fans to the same spot in the Silver Spur campground just outside Williams-Brice Stadium. For early afternoon games, that means leaving his home outside Columbia at about 6 a.m. to arrive just before the gates open 8 a.m. For later games, LaForce tries to arrive about five hours before kickoff.

"Tailgating in South Carolina is different than anywhere else in the world," LaForce says. "I've been to a lot of games around the country, and nobody tailgates with the flair we do in South Carolina. It's the best in the country, as far as I'm concerned."

At each home game, LaForce estimates he serves between 50 and 100 people outside his 38-foot Mountain Aire RV, depending on the weather, though he has served as many as 150. On barbecue day, that means roasting a whole pig the night before, 50 quartered chickens, ribs, and barbecue hash over rice.

"We really know how to tailgate," he says. "The South Carolina people have it down to an art."

Local estimates place the number of tailgaters at University of South Carolina football games at somewhere between 50,000 and 70,000 on a good day. The

draw is a combination of warm fall weather, the camaraderie of Gamecock fans, and the acres of flat, open land around the stadium. Williams-Brice Stadium is bordered by both the State Farmer's Market and the State Fairgrounds just outside downtown Columbia, ensuring close tailgate spots for as many people who want them.

"Tailgating in South Carolina is big — really big," says RJ Moore of Columbia, who's only missed one Gamecock football game in 27 years. That missed game was when his mother-in-law died. "I listened to it on the radio, though," he says.

Occasionally, Moore puts his own unique spin on tailgating. About two times per season, Moore opens up his nearby tune-up garage for "grease-pit parties." The car lifts are raised

and between 300 to 600 people of all sorts are invited in to share in Gamecock spirit, Moore says.

A row of 22 cabooses lined up on an unused rail spur next to the stadium provides another tailgate area unique to the University of South Carolina. The Cocka-

New Orleans Stew

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 1/2 lb. package Hillshire Farm® Hot Links or any variety Hillshire Farm® Smoked Sausage, sliced | 2 tablespoons seafood seasoning, salt and pepper |
| 1 large onion, chopped | 1 tablespoon marjoram |
| 2 large bell peppers, chopped | 4 ears corn on the cob, broken in quarters |
| 3 celery ribs, chopped | 1 pound raw, unpeeled shrimp |

Put onion, bell pepper and celery ribs into stew pot or soup pot, allowing enough water to cover ingredients. Add seafood seasoning and salt and pepper to taste. Boil 10 to 15 minutes. Add Hillshire Farm® sausage. Add corn on the cob and boil 5 to 10 minutes. Add shrimp and boil 3 minutes. Remove pot from heat and let stand for 5 minutes. Drain in colander. Serve with basic cocktail sauce for shrimp — ketchup and horseradish mixed to taste with a dash of lemon juice.

SOUTH CAROLINA TAILGATING *continued*

Tailgating AMERICA

booses were originally bought by a local businessman in 1990, moved to the site, refurbished, and sold to corporate and individual owners for about \$45,000 apiece. The owners then customized their own cabooses, creating personalized, all-weather tailgate areas perfect for before the game and after. Each Cockaboose is equipped with running water, heating and air, a deck and cable TV.

At the opposite end of the State Fairgrounds, the university's fraternities and sororities have laid claim to an area known as "Tally-Ho" for the adjacent Tally-Ho Club. Several fraternities reserve grassy spots for large tents in the Tally-Ho area. There, they can socialize with other fraternities and sororities before walking over to the game. Some fraternities will occasionally sponsor tailgate bands at Tally-Ho.

South Carolina besides the southern hospitality and tradition, it is the food. Throughout the tailgate area and along the roads to the stadium, vendors sell boiled peanuts (pronounced "balled" peanuts). From the low-country areas of South Carolina, fans bring crawfish stews, shrimp boils and oysters to roast.



ousine, or the crazy ways people have decorated their vehicles, or the time that couple got engaged at a tailgate and came back for their anniversary.

Tailgating has become so much a part of the sport it celebrates at South Carolina, it is impossible to imagine one without the other. ■



"We usually put up the tent early in the morning," says Matt Goddard, a member of the university's chapter of the Sigma Nu fraternity. "We're all Gamecock fans (at Tally-Ho), and there are no enemies."

Even in rainy weather, fraternity men wear shirts and ties to Tally-Ho and the game, while sorority women wear shorts outfits, dress pants, or dresses.

Sorority Council President Melanie McAllister says she enjoys dressing up for the games. "I think that it's a part of the fun," she says. "It's tradition."

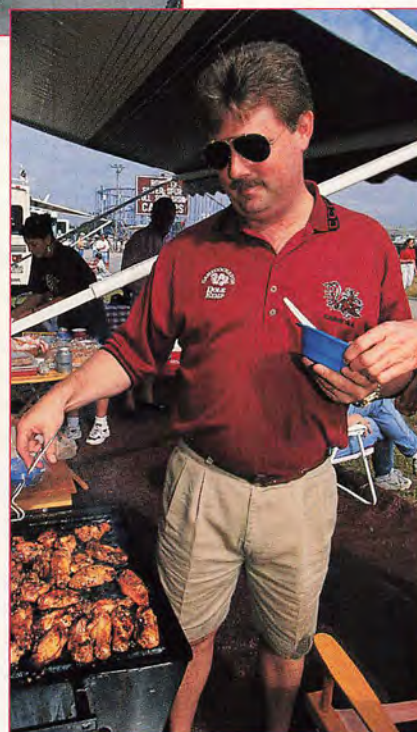
If any one thing defines tailgating in

In the Columbia area, the tailgate food of choice is, arguably, barbecue and hash from Maurice Bessinger's Piggie Park. Piggie Park serves barbecue cooked in a closed, wood-burning pit in a mustard-based sauce, giving the barbecue a yellowish-golden color. Hash is a mixture of ground pork, barbecue sauce and other ingredients served over rice.

On football game days, Piggie Park serves an average of a half-ton of barbecue, about three times the amount sold on a usual day, according to Lloyd Bessinger, West Columbia Piggie Park general manager. To get ready for the demand, Bessinger says the barbecuing begins at 6 p.m. the night before a game.

"Football is our big season," Bessinger says. "Occasionally we get people who want to take a whole pig."

Among veteran South Carolina tailgaters, there are the stories of tailgates past — of the time somebody came in a lim-



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IOWA TAILGATING *by David Schwartz, photos by David Preston*



Shortly before sunrise during chilly fall mornings, Hawkeyes from two months to 90 years awaken to drape themselves in faded black and gold denim overalls. While the station wagon warms up and frost is laboriously removed from the windshield, coolers packed with everything from pre-packaged brats to whole, uncooked lobster are placed carefully in between the spare tire and worn-out folding chairs.

Around 7 a.m., anywhere from four to seven hours before game time depending on television coverage, parking lots surrounding the University of Iowa's legendary Kinnick Stadium begin to fill with eternal Hawkeye faithful. Friends and families group together in blocks of four to five parking spaces. A short time later, the stench of lighter fluid stakes its claim to this holiest of gridiron mornings. Soon, however, the stench is replaced by the aroma of various burning meats eagerly awaiting their opportunity to clog the arteries of Iowa fans from across several states.

But Iowa fans don't care about cholesterol on Saturday mornings; they care about laughing and embracing old friends. They care about reliving memories of their college days or of listening to former Iowa football announcer Ronald Reagan from the early 1940s. Iowa fans care about flavor-rich food, domestic beer and large groups of people.

These are the tailgaters of The University of Iowa: Loud, proud and midwest friendly. They give more high-fives before the game than most fans do during it. And when game time is finally on the horizon, Hawkeye tailgaters leave their cars and begin moving like cattle toward the stadium. Some are so full they feel like a prized Iowa hog and others are already

hung over. Either way, all are praying to God that they haven't lost their voices before the opening kickoff.

Iowa senior Brendan Brown describes Hawkeye tailgates as "a preliminary action in preparation of the main event."

"Except, for some reason, the main event can't even compare to the undercard," Brown says. "You've got people taking their clothes off in freezing temperatures. Try that at the football game and you'll have security all over you. At tailgates nobody cares."

Bob Foley, a native of Davenport, Iowa, now living in Iowa City, has been tailgating since 1973. He considers himself a tailgating traditionalist, preferring stale hot dog buns to garlic-butter dipping sauce. Complex meals, Foley says, spoil the mood of what tailgating should be: Ketchup down the front of your shirt and beer so cold you curse yourself for buying

\$5 gloves. In fact, tailgating, if done properly, can rival the enjoyment of the game itself. But not quite.

"I think it's tough to distinguish which is really more enjoyable," Foley says. "It's like what do you like more, the cake or the frosting? The two go together. Separately, neither one is nearly as enjoyable."

While food is the most important of final touches, even a buffet worthy of Henry VIII is spoiled if you don't enjoy it with the right people. The choice between yellow or spicy mustard is nothing unless accompanied by an enormous, bellowing laugh from a man who decided to leave his fields for one day to bask in this statewide tradition.

Jim Leonard, a native of Osage, Iowa, has been following Iowa football since the early 1960s, when Jerry Burns was the head coach. Leonard is one of the lucky

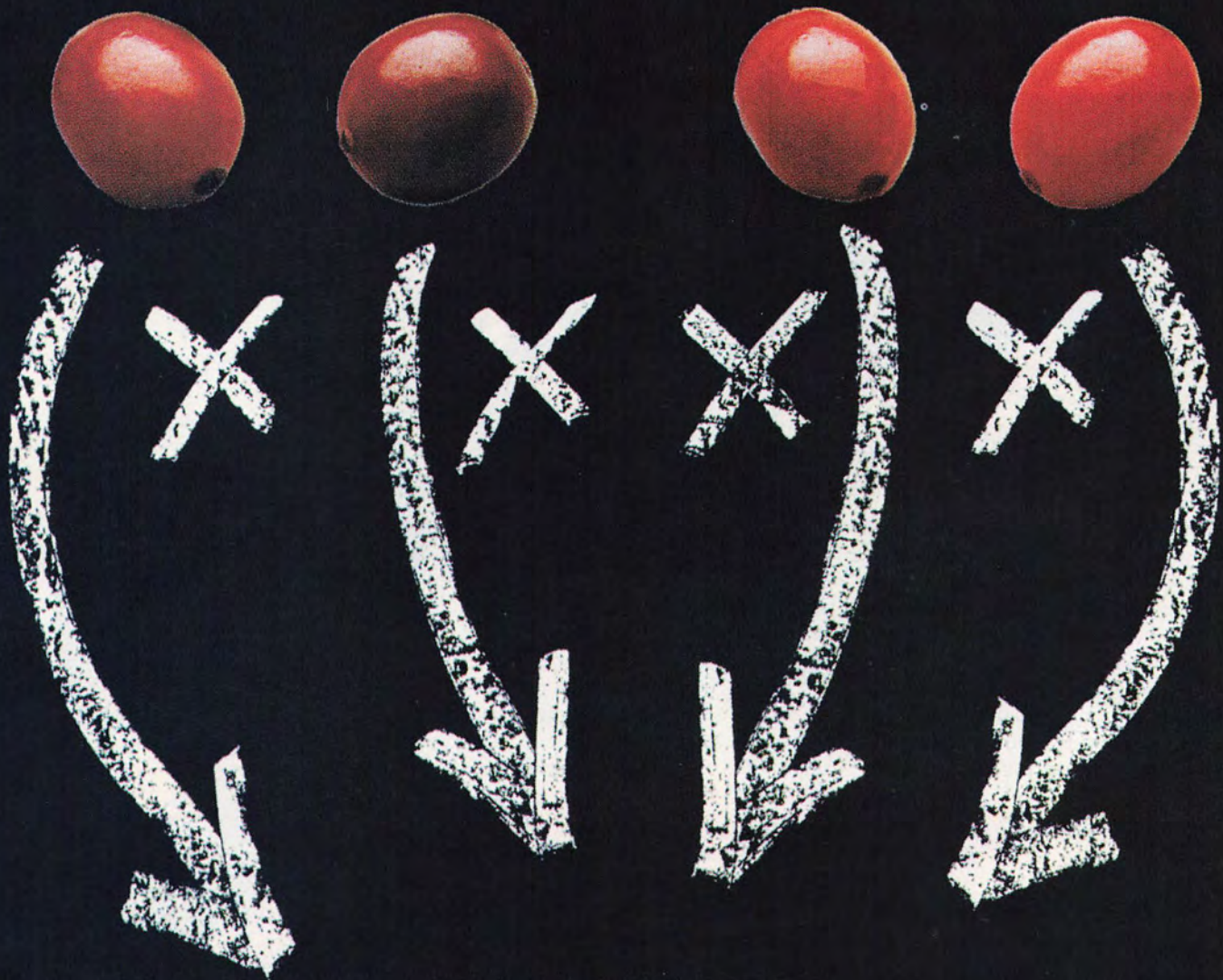
Nacho Fries

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1 32 oz. package
Ore-Ida Golden Crinkles® | 1/2 cup sour cream |
| 1 3 oz. jar real bacon bits | 1/2 cup guacamole |
| 1 cup shredded
cheddar cheese | 1/4 cup diced tomato |
| | 2 tablespoons chopped
green onion |

Chop tomato and green onion. Set aside. Following directions on package, deep fry Ore-Ida Golden Crinkles®. Arrange on plate. Top with bacon bits, cheese, sour cream and guacamole. Garnish with tomato and green onion.

Makes 3 to 4 servings

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IOWA TAILGATING *continued*

Tailgating AMERICA

ones because he's guaranteed a parking space, and says the greater the people, the greater the fun.

"You never really know who's coming or going from week to week," Leonard says. "We tailgate by Carver-Hawkeye, the basketball stadium, because my wife



works there and it's easy to park. But we have friends coming in from all over the state and they all can't come in every weekend, so each week we're socializing with a different group of people and it's always just as fun."

Iowa senior Becky Gruhn likes to tell the story of a time she and her crew forgot to include ketchup with their supplies. She began asking everyone around her for



Heinz, Hunt's and even generic-brand, but nobody was able to oblige. Finally, one lone voice came out of the crowd.

"This guy stands up on the top of his car and starts screaming, 'I've got ketchup, who needs ketchup?' We all start laughing, but the next thing you know, he's lin-

ing our hot dog buns generously with his ketchup. Then, he starts walking up and down every row in the parking lot hollering, 'I got ketchup, I got ketchup. Who needs ketchup?' He may have been drunk, but he made a lot of people happy."

Another senior, Carie Regan, says it's virtually impossible to look around an Iowa tailgate and not see somebody smiling. She says Big Ten roots are a natural incubator for a powerful tailgate, but Iowa personalities push the Hawkeye festival into a realm of its own.

"I don't care what anybody says, there is no better conference in which to tailgate than the Big Ten, and no better school to grill brats in 20-degree tempera-



tures than Iowa — not Michigan, not Penn State and definitely not Wisconsin," Regan says.

"The state of Iowa was created to tailgate, it's in our blood. It's who we are and one of the things we live for. Until you experience it, you'll never really understand what it means to the students as well as the state." ■

SALSA CHILI & FRANKFURTERS

1/2 lb. frankfurters	5 oz. Daily's Salsa or Thick 'N Spicy Bloody Mary Mix
1/2 cup chopped onion	
1/4 cup chopped green pepper	1 teaspoon vinegar
1/2 teaspoon chili powder	2 teaspoons vegetable oil
1 29-ounce can red kidney beans	1/2 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
10 oz. condensed tomato soup	

Cook franks, onions, green pepper and chili powder in oil until onion is tender. Add remaining ingredients. Cover and cook over low heat 15 - 20 minutes, stirring occasionally. Serves 6.

Daily's cocktail mixes are also great as marinades and toppings. Try the Salsa and Thick 'N Spicy Bloody Mary Mixes as marinades for chicken and ribs, or add to your burgers for that spicy kick. Try the daiquiri mixes as a topping for ice cream or cheesecake.

Ore Ida

ALL-STAR

LINEUP



Join the Winning Team!

AIR FORCE TAILGATING

by Cadet Rusty Evers, *photos by John Betancourt*

Imagine the perfect conditions and atmosphere for tailgate parties before a football game. Groups of happy people, burgers and hot dogs on the grill, chips and fixings on the table, soda icing down in a bucket, music playing, excitement in the air and beautiful fall weather.

And a F-117A Stealth Fighter thundering overhead.

The United States Air Force Academy is located on the eastern slope of the Rampart Range of the Colorado Rockies, which provides a dramatic backdrop for Falcon Stadium. At 7,258 feet above sea level, air is rare for Falcon opponents, but it isn't the only obstacle they face. They must also contend with deafening pre-game air shows, mascots descending from the sky, rollicking seas of blue-clad fans in chicken bucket headgear and hailstorms of spirit cheese.

Like most colleges, you'll find the typical local die-hards who attend every game dressed in Falcon blue and silver. These Falcon supporters make a big statement, but the fans who make the biggest statement are 4,000 strong and come dressed for battle in coats and ties. They are the Academy's student body, the cadets. The Academy Cadet Wing incorporates spirited pageantry unparalleled by another collegiate institution.

This pageantry is exemplified through some of the country's most impressive tailgate parties. Academy tailgates are not just known for the impressive amount of food served, but rather the flyby's. At every home game, the Air Force provides a spectacular aerial display several thousand feet above the stands. Cadets perform acrobatic maneuvers in sailplanes, and active-duty officers thunder overhead in planes like the Academy's own T-3 trainer and the F-117A Stealth Fighter.

"You know it's a good flyby when a four-ship formation of F-111s is so low that you can smell the unburned jet-fuel from the afterburners," Cadet Mike Connor says. "I love that!"

Another aspect of Falcon football that one can't help but love is the spirit. Since

cadets consider football games "mandatory fun," they display unique spirit and unusual cadet squadron esprit de corps.

The entire Cadet Wing is required to attend every home football game; therefore, squadron tailgates are a necessity. A squadron is an organization of approximately 100 cadets with each of the four classes represented. Cadets in a squadron work and live together; tailgates give them an opportunity to enjoy each other's camaraderie. Spirit is guaranteed; many cadets use it as a release from the military,

academic, athletic and character development pressures that build up during the week.

"Tailgates are a great time to get together," Cadet Denny Howell says. "We relax, take our hats off, and eat standing up for fear of spilling stuff on our uniforms."

Unlike at most colleges, the Prohibition Act of 1919 is still in effect at the Academy. Consumption of alcohol at tailgates is prohibited by cadet regulations, so when the cadets display their





spirit at athletic events, you can be assured it's not the beer talking.

After the cadets eat a hearty tailgate meal and hang out with their friends, Academy pageantry continues. Half of the Cader Wing, 2,000 cadets strong, marches onto the field to the crowd's delight. While the last note of the national anthem plays, an F-15 Eagle screams overhead to a roaring, packed crowd.

Next, the cadets run into the stands to create the familiar "sea of blue." Some cadets, however, remain on the field to create a human tunnel for the Fightin' Falcons to run through. By this time, the crowd is truly fired up, only to be greeted by a Wings of Blue jump team performance. These cadets parachute from high above and land on the 50-yard line to present the game ball.

"I jumped into the stadium once as the 'Bird' (the mascot)," Cadet Matt Crill says. "It felt good coming down; 40,000 people were cheering for me. I was kicking my bird feet and waving my wings around."

Another group that waves its pride around is the freshman class. The fourth-class cadets run to each end zone and do pushups whenever the Falcons score. The cadets crank out one pushup for every point that the Falcons earn. It is not uncommon for them to accumulate over 300 pushups in one afternoon.

Another show of spirit is seen in the stands. Some squadrons sit together and

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wear distinctive clothing. The Chickenhawks of squadron 16 wear chicken buckets on their heads.

"They are Chicken hats," Cadet Jenn Drum says. "We cut out wings on either side of the bucket, and sure enough, we even got the Commandant to wear a Chicken hat."

Not to be outdone, the Vikings of squadron 9 proudly wear Viking helmets. "We freshmen stayed up late making these tin foil helmets. They were insane," Cadet Beth Zeman says.

Although putting twists on uniforms is popular, undoubtedly the favorite activity is throwing spirit cheese whenever the Falcons make an incredible play. Packaged cheese slices are thrown up in the air, sideways, and even on the field. "It is amazing how much is thrown," cheerleader Cadet Beth Crimmel says.

Not everyone understands the importance of cheese as a means for celebration. When cadets traveled to Notre Dame, they learned this lesson. "The people from Notre Dame — they were taking the cheese and eating it," Cadet Maurice Lee says.

Whether or not fans from other institutions understand the way the Academy celebrates one of America's favorite pastimes, one thing is certain . . . those who attend will experience festivities that won't soon be forgotten. ■



FRANK'S® ORIGINAL BUFFALO CHICKEN WINGS

2 1/2 lb. chicken wings,
split, tips discarded

1/3 cup butter or margarine,
melted

1/2 cup Frank's® RedHot®
Cayenne Pepper Sauce
(or to taste)

Celery sticks

Blue cheese salad dressing

Prepare wings as desired (see below).

In large bowl, combine RedHot® sauce and butter. Add cooked wing pieces and toss to coat. Serve with celery and dressing.

FOR CRISPY WINGS: Chicken can be grilled over medium hot coals, turning frequently, about 30 minutes. Or, bake at 425° F, 30 min., turn and bake 30 min. longer.

FOR ORIGINAL FRY RECIPE: Deep fry wing pieces, a few at a time, at 400° F until crispy, about 10 min. Drain on paper towels.

Makes 6 servings

STANFORD TAILGATING

story by Alda Leu, photos by Peter Brouillet

As the sun shines through the Eucalyptus Grove, parked cars remain nestled in the shade. On normal days, the vast fields of grass that surround the Stanford campus go untouched. But on game days, nothing is sacred. Hundreds of cars fill the otherwise natural areas, so many that the grass and dirt are only sparsely visible beneath the tires, the chairs, the barbecue grills, the stereos, the tables, the picnic spreads and the feet.

The noises range from chirping birds to the vibrant sounds of the Leland Stanford Junior University Marching Band to live rock 'n' roll music to songs from the nearest boom box. And of course there is the chatter of voices.

The sights range from tents to recreational vehicles as far as the eye can see. to Pickup trucks with the tailgate down, festooned with red-and-white banners and posters, their occupants sporting Stanford sweatshirts and crimson face paint.

In one area there are overnight campers



— frat pledges or dorm dwellers, mostly freshmen and dorm staff who want to get the best seats. They arrive the night before, enjoy a night of fun and revelry, complete with barbecue and beer, and wake up full of enthusiasm to the morning chill. Alcohol is not permitted within the gray stone walls of the massive Stanford Stadium, so

**“My RedHot® is as thick as a linebacker,
as rich as a quarterback,
and as tasty as an overtime touchdown.”**

Frank

Frank's® Original RedHot® Sauce



STANFORD TAILGATING *continued*



tailgaters must get their fill prior to entering the compound.

The bed of a pickup truck parked in the East lot has become a temporary home for the owners. Surrounded by beer cans and bags of chips, the tailgaters dine on sandwiches and talk about the upcoming matchup.

Next to them is a more organized group of revelers. A picnic table, decked out with a red-and-white checkered tablecloth, is covered with health-conscious fare. Grilled chicken and fish have replaced the standard hot dogs and hamburgers.

For some Stanford fans, the typical barbecue and picnic are simply not enough. Under another cluster of trees, there is a company tailgate — a huge tent with a buffet and live music. Employees, guests and clients have traded in their business attire for Cardinal sweatshirts and hats. Shoptalk is frowned upon in this setting; the conversations lean more toward the thrashing Stanford is expected to hand out later in the afternoon.

A brother-and-sister team, both Stanford alums from the '50s, organize wine and cheese tastings for every home game. Thirty or forty of their closest friends are invited to share this highly civilized feast, complete with salmon shipped in expressly for the occasion.

The fans come from every part of the country. Some are alumni athletic boosters, while others just love Stanford football. Most only attend home games, but

a strong contingent of faithful follow the Cardinal bandwagon wherever it might take them, whether it be Pasadena or Wisconsin or the Sun Bowl.

In the stadium itself, the sun is shining and the dolliers are performing a well-choreographed dance. The band is decked out in traditional gear: red vests, wacky hats, and whatever bottoms might suit them that day — a colorful long skirt on a guy, black slacks on a girl, or plaid pants on a tuba player.

However, none of this compares to the level of enthusiasm for one of the most anticipated yearly events in the Bay Area — the Big Game. For the traditional matchup against archrival Cal, the excitement reaches a fevered pitch.

The tailgates get much bigger, with huge tents and canopies covering enormous spreads of food. Students wearing the latest Big Game t-shirts send representatives to camp out and stake a claim in the stands for their dorm or fraternity.

The stands become a sea of Cardinal red and Cal blue. Families with ties to both sides of the Bay take sides, some even sitting on opposite sides of the stadium.

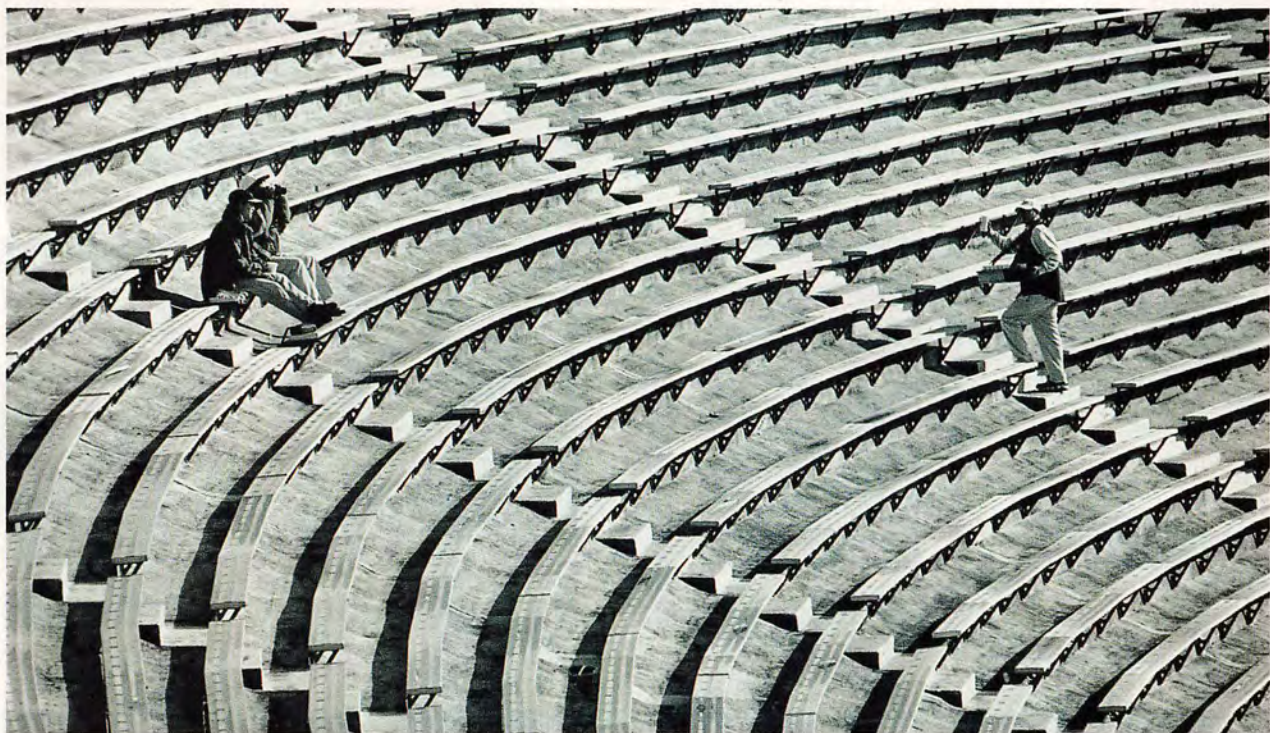
The Tree and Oski invariably fight and sometimes fruit is hurled, but the game always plays itself out to an exciting conclusion, with the victorious team taking home the coveted Axe. The fans return to their homes, already making plans for the next Stanford game. ■

Top 10 Tailgating Tips

1. Plan your menu and do prep work a day or two before the game. Keep the menu simple and pack prepared food in disposable containers.
2. Make a list of the items you want to take along, and check off items as you pack. Pack paper products (plates, napkins, towels, forks, spoons, etc.) the night before. Remember to bring a small first aid kit, trash bags, water, and damp towels to clean hands and face.
3. Dress in team colors.
4. Plan to arrive at least three to four hours early.
5. Find a good spot to park. Park next to a grassy area or at the end of the parking row — this gives you more room for serious tailgating.
6. Fly a flag on a very high pole so friends can find you.
7. Decorate your tailgate site with team pennants and other stuff.
8. Meet your tailgating neighbors, throw the football with friends and have a good time.
9. Food should be ready 1½ hours before the game starts. This allows plenty of time to eat, clean up and extinguish fires.
10. Leave area clean. Begin thinking about food and friends for the next game.

Tailgating Contest

Have you ever hosted an unbelievable tailgate party? Is your school the best tailgating site in the nation? Do you have the perfect tailgating recipe? Send us your stories (300 words or less) and photos describing your tailgate party, best tailgating school nomination or recipe by Feb. 15, 1998. If your entry is chosen as the most creative, your winning entry will be featured in next year's *Athlon Sports College Football*. Send your entries by e-mail to athlon@nashville.net or write us at Tailgating Contest, Athlon Sports, 220 25th Avenue N., Suite 200, Nashville, TN 37203.



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U.D.A.: Upper Deck Auth.
S.B.: Score Board
M.M.: Mounted Memories
C.L.: Club Level

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Brunell, Mark (R)	\$ 99	Otto, Jim (R)	\$ 79
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Campbell, Earl (S)	\$119	Salaam, R. (R)	\$ 99
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George, Eddie (R)	\$ 99	Unitas, J. (S)	\$129
Hendricks, T. (R)	\$ 89	Unitas, J. (R)	\$109
Hornung, Paul (S)	\$119	Wheatley, T. (S)	\$ 79
Johnson, J. (R) Dolphins	\$ 99	Williams, Sher. (R)	\$ 79
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Hostetler, J. (R)	\$ 99	Young, S. (S) S.B.	\$149
Kaufman, N. (R)	\$ 89		
Long, Howie (R)	\$ 99		
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Carlton, S.	\$ 26	Larsen, D.	\$ 19	Sandberg, R.	\$ 45
Cepeda, O.	\$ 24	Lopez, Javier	\$ 24	Schmidt, M. S.B.	\$ 35
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Clark, Dwight	\$ 29
Collins, Kerry	\$ 45
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Dorsett, Tony	\$ 32
Favre, Brett	\$ 69
George, Eddie	\$ 35
Graham, Otto	\$ 21
Greene, Joe	\$ 29
Griesse, B. U.D.A.	\$ 39
Haley, Charles M.M.	\$ 29
Hornung, P.	\$ 24
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Smith, Emmitt	\$ 59

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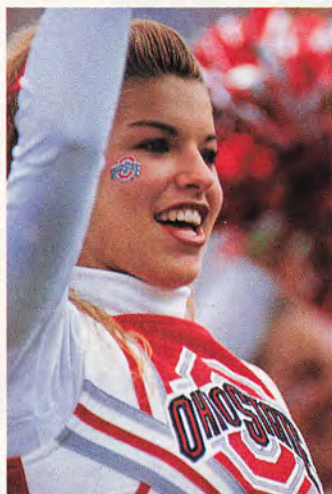
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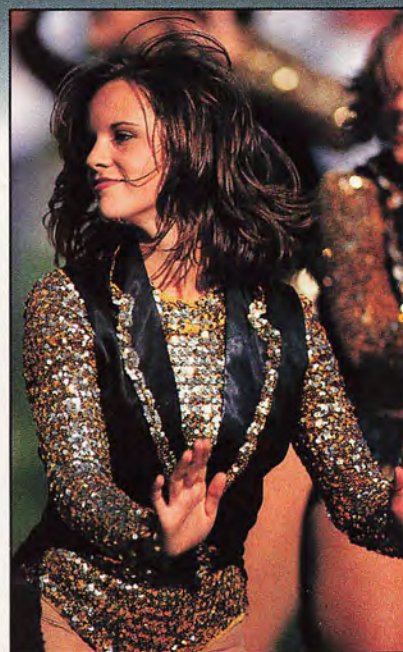
Colorado

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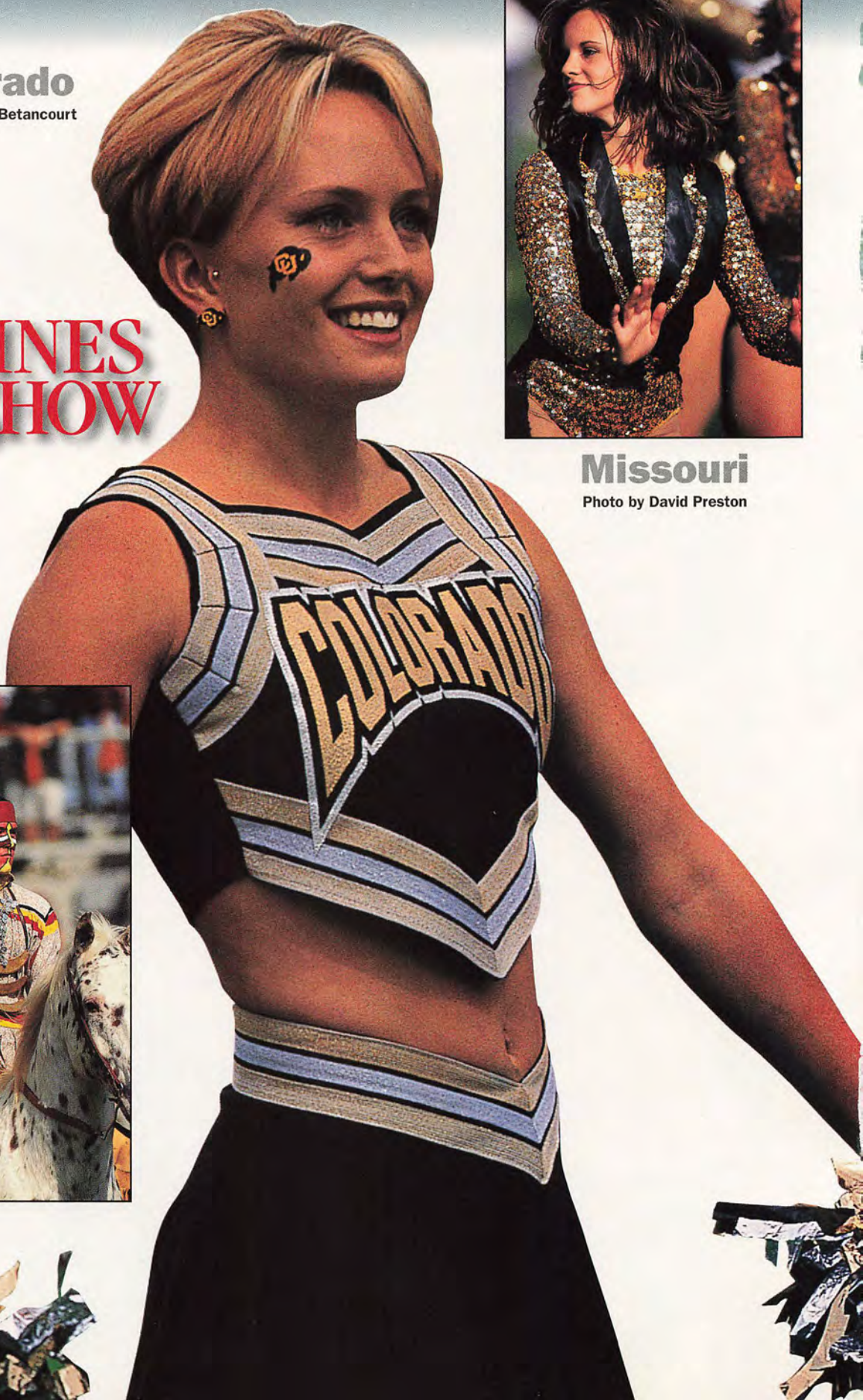
Florida State

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Missouri

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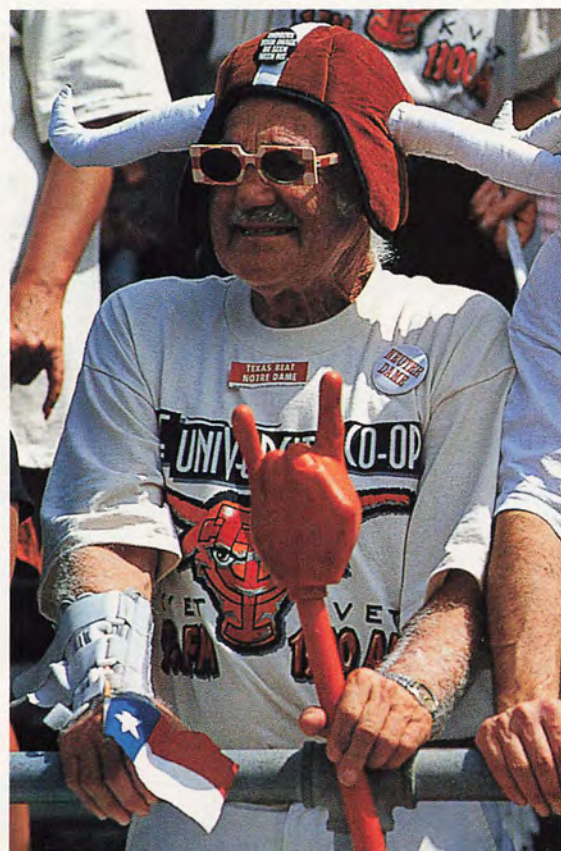


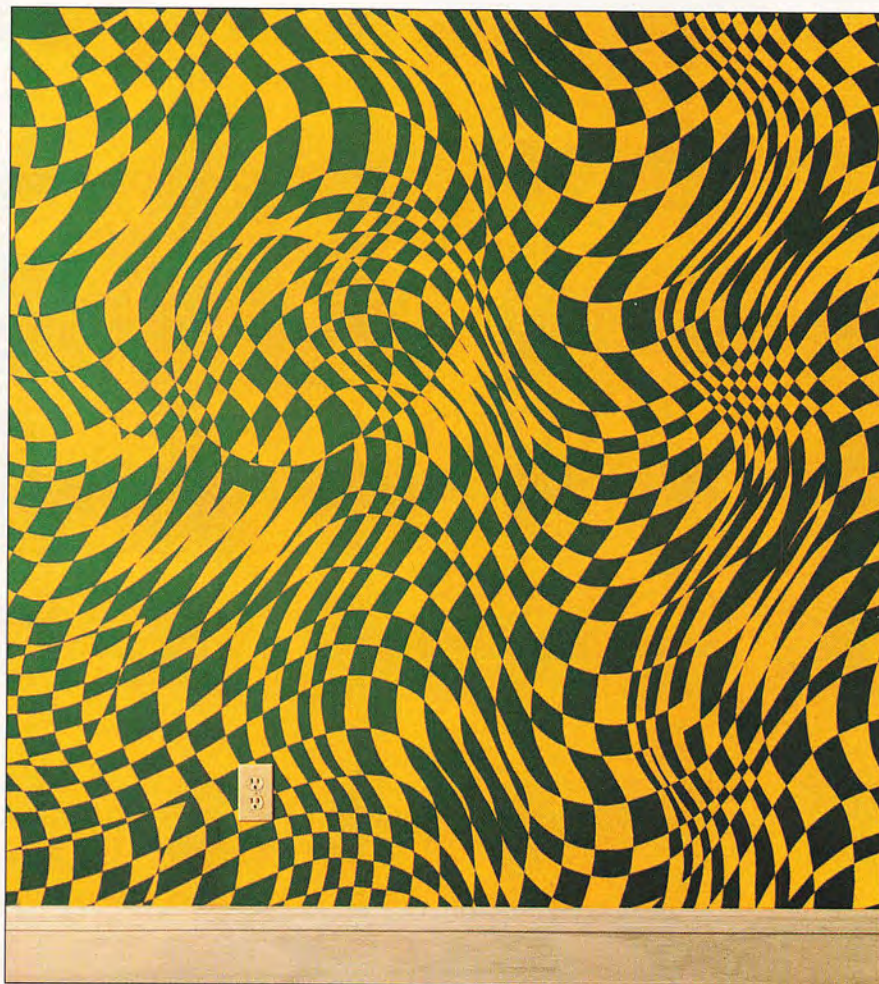
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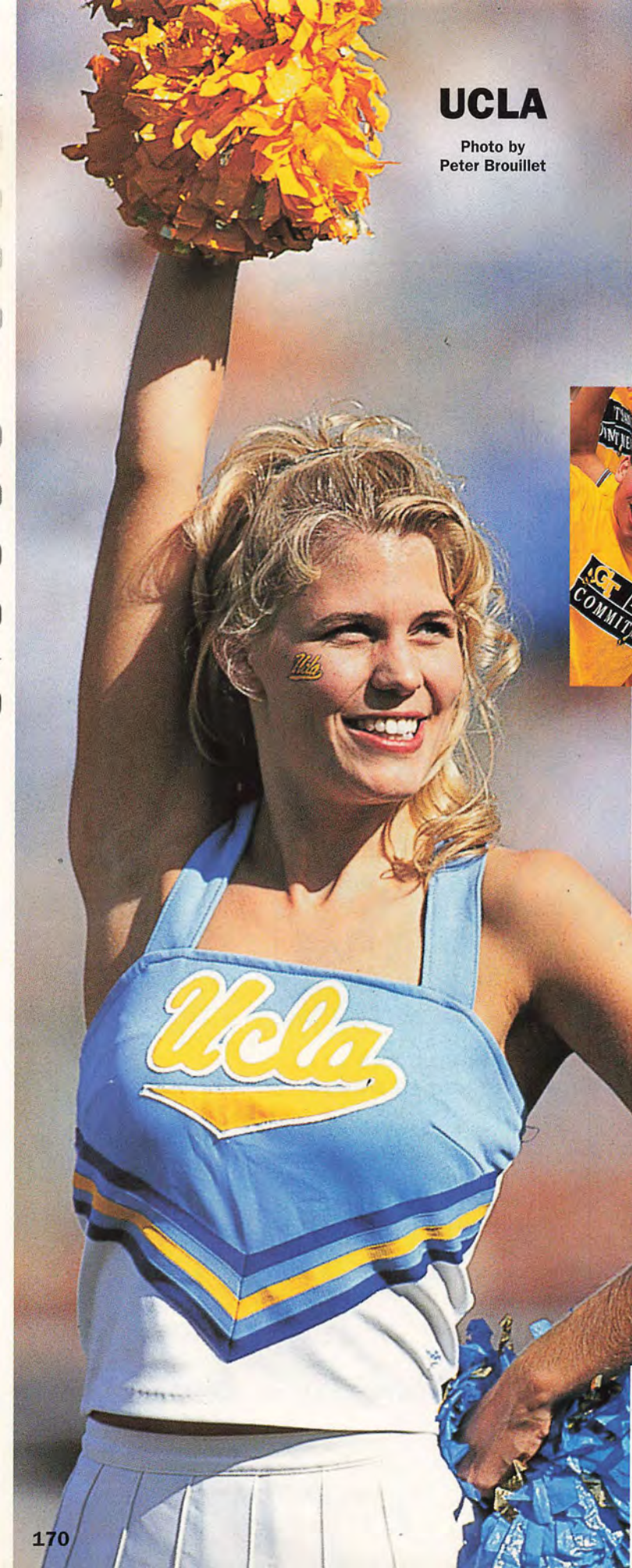
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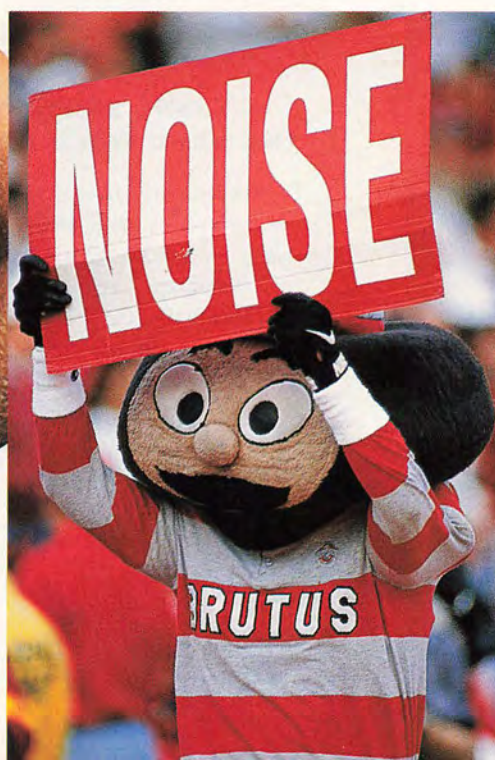


**Georgia
Tech**

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Ohio State

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Mississippi

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Jesse Palmer

Canadian Gold

by JOHN KRYK, *TORONTO SUN*

this fall. At least a dozen Canadians figure to start at Division I-A schools.

What was it that finally sent recruiters scurrying for maps of Canada?

Easy: Tim Biakabutuka. With his dazzling foot speed and slashing power, the Montreal-raised Biakabutuka broke Michigan's single-season rushing record in 1995 with 1,818 yards.

Before Biakabutuka burst onto the scene, the guru of high school football talent in Canada, Ron Dias, could annually lure only a handful of U.S. college coaches to his spring showcase camps in Ontario. But in 1996, some 35 coaches from prominent schools everywhere east of the Rockies lined his field. More than 40 coaches attended this year's camp in May to get a glimpse of the 1997 blue chippers.

"The whole recruiting scene is exploding up here," Dias says. "As a result, Canadian kids are more aware that the dream is not far-fetched anymore, so they're working harder."

The best example of that is Palmer, one of the most ballyhooed Canadian prep stars ever. At 6-2, 210, he can zip a football 60 yards flat-footed (more than 70 from a two-step drop) and has the high, over-the-head release point in his throwing motion that NFL scouts covet.

"Palmer has the potential to be better than any quarterback I saw on film this year," U.S. recruiting analyst Tom Lemming said in March. "He has great arm strength."

Palmer enrolled at Florida in January to gain the benefit of spring drills, giving him a better shot at replacing outgoing Heisman winner Danny Wuerffel. But he struggled through much of spring practice. He

likely will see some action this fall, if only in mop-up situations. "Jesse's coming around," Spurrier says. "He has a quick release. He has a lot to learn, but he's not bad."

As for this fall's blue chippers, NCAA recruiters are drooling over a group of Canadian running backs headed by Dahrman Diedrick and Godfrey Lewis of Toronto.

"I'd rank both Diedrick and Lewis ahead of Biakabutuka at this stage of their careers," Dias says.

Last year, Nebraska ventured north for the first time looking for skill-position stars.

"There's an abundance of talent so we're going to take a hard, hard look at it," says Huskers linebackers coach Craig Bohl, who recruits in Canada. "Due to higher academic standards down here (NCAA requirements), we have a much smaller talent pool. So we've just got to expand there."

There's one other important reason: snow. "I also recruit in Florida," Bohl says, "and a lot of times the guy likes our school but just doesn't want to live in our climate. But a guy who has grown up in our kind of climate isn't going to be spooked like the guy who's never seen snow."

To be sure, snow doesn't spook Canadians. Nor, anymore, does the prospect of playing big-time U.S. college football.

John Kryk covers NCAA football for the Toronto Sun and is author of Natural Enemies: The Notre Dame-Michigan Football Feud, published by Andrews and McMeel.

Canada's Finest

Name	Pos.	School	Hometown
Ryan Thelwell	WR	Minnesota	London, Ontario
Minnesota's all-time leading receiver with a year to go.			
Jerome Pathon	WR	Washington	No. Vancouver, BC
Leading receiver for preseason No. 1 Huskies.			
Richard Mercier	G	Miami	Montreal, Quebec
Entering his third straight season as a starter.			
Clinton Wayne	DE	Ohio State	Brampton, Ontario
Figures prominently in defensive line plans as a sophomore.			
Scott Regimbald	TE	Houston	Montreal, Quebec
All-freshman team, C-USA.			
David De La Peralles	G	Kentucky	Montreal, Quebec
All-freshman team, SEC.			

The last, great hotbed of blue-chip talent has been discovered by college recruiters. Way up north.

"We used to think Canada was our well-kept little secret, but now it seems everybody's going up there," former Indiana coach Bill Mallory was saying last fall.

Indeed, until a few years ago only a handful of universities near the border bothered to keep tabs on Canadian high school talent. One coach's mantra — "all we're looking for is mean, ornery offensive linemen who can run" — basically was shared by all.

Occasionally, schools such as Syracuse, Indiana or Michigan State would sign a Canadian. But for the most part, America's neighbors to the north were consigned to the lower echelon of Division I-A (i.e., the Mid-American Conference). Not anymore.

"The days of Canadian kids going unheard of are over, unless they're in the backwoods somewhere," Michigan defensive coordinator Jim Herrmann says.

More than 40 schools now intensely recruit Canada, including the cream of the crop: Notre Dame, Nebraska, Miami and Florida. And they're plucking out more than just those ornery linemen.

The next great quarterback at Quarterback U, the University of Florida, just might be a Canuck by the name of Jesse Palmer. Generally regarded as one of the top three prep quarterbacks in North America last fall, Palmer was recruited by just about everybody while playing four-down club football in Nepean, Ontario, just outside Ottawa.

In all, more than 100 Canadians will dot rosters of Division I-A and I-AA schools

Seminoles Reload an Already Full House

The 1997 recruiting race was one of the most exiting races in recent memory. It was a photo finish between Florida State and Penn State with FSU winning by a face mask. Tennessee, Florida and Michigan were very competitive and have reasons to rejoice. Certainly it is worth reminding you that the real test of the recruiting wars will occur on Saturdays in about three years. But just for fun, let's speculate who inked the best group.

It came down to two old war horses battling for the top spot between Bobby Bowden's Florida State Seminoles and Joe Paterno's Penn State Nittany Lions. It looked as if Penn State, the leader for most of the season, would win the race easily. Kareem McKenzie, rated by *PrepStar* as the No. 1 offensive lineman in the nation, surprised most recruiting analysts when he decided to sign with Penn State. His signing culminated a stellar class. One key loss for the Nittany Lions was *PrepStar* Dream Team running back Antoine Womack (No. 4 rated RB nationally) who decided to stay home and play for the Cavaliers of Virginia.

Bowden has not had a class out of the Top 5 this decade and this is his second No. 1 finish. It's no surprise his Seminoles are consistently ranked in the Top 5 (in the polls) and routinely win 10 games a season.

The Noles captured two of the nation's most prized players late in the game, Travis Minor (No. 3 RB) and David Warren (No. 1 DE) to put FSU over the top. Warren is rated by *PrepStar* as the No. 1 recruit overall. Look for Warren to contribute this fall. Minor hails from the same high school as former Seminole Warrick Dunn and has been compared to Dunn, only bigger and perhaps even faster.

ACC

The gap between the Seminoles and the rest of conference is narrowing. A terrific effort from the Tar Heels threatens Florida State's hold on the ACC championship.

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Florida State | 6. Maryland |
| 2. North Carolina | 7. Duke |
| 3. Virginia | 8. North Carolina St. |
| 4. Clemson | 9. Wake Forest |
| 5. Georgia Tech | |

Big East

Miami wins again even though Syracuse could rise in the national rankings if all its signees qualify. Virginia Tech's program is on a definite upswing. Rutgers was a huge surprise.

Top 40 Classes

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Florida State | 21. Syracuse |
| 2. Penn State | 22. Kansas State |
| 3. Tennessee | 23. Stanford |
| 4. Florida | 24. Virginia |
| 5. Michigan | 25. Washington |
| 6. USC | 26. Virginia Tech |
| 7. Colorado | 27. Clemson |
| 8. Notre Dame | 28. Michigan State |
| 9. LSU | 29. Auburn |
| 10. Ohio State | 30. Wisconsin |
| 11. Texas | 31. Georgia |
| 12. Miami | 32. Georgia Tech |
| 13. North Carolina | 33. Iowa |
| 14. Alabama | 34. Arizona |
| 15. Texas A&M | 35. Arizona State |
| 16. UCLA | 36. Oregon |
| 17. Nebraska | 37. California |
| 18. Northwestern | 38. Texas Tech |
| 19. South Carolina | 39. San Diego St. |
| 20. Oklahoma | 40. Ole Miss |

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Miami | 5. West Virginia |
| 2. Syracuse | 6. Pittsburgh |
| 3. Virginia Tech | 7. Boston College |
| 4. Rutgers | 8. Temple |

Big 10

Considering the four coaching changes in the Big 10 and the rumors of some of the league's top coaches leaving for the NFL, the results were pleasing with seven teams made the Top 40.

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. Penn State | 7. Iowa |
| 2. Michigan | 8. Indiana |
| 3. Ohio State | 9. Illinois |
| 4. Northwestern | 10. Minnesota |
| 5. Michigan State | 11. Purdue |
| 6. Wisconsin | |

Big 12

The Big 12 from top to bottom managed a close second to the SEC in nabbing top talent. Colorado edges out Texas, but the Longhorns once again flexed their recruiting muscle with a finish in the Top 15. If Texas hadn't lost out on a couple of players late, they would have finished in the Top 5.

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Colorado | 7. Texas Tech |
| 2. Texas | 8. Oklahoma State |
| 3. Texas A&M | 9. Missouri |
| 4. Nebraska | 10. Baylor |
| 5. Oklahoma | 11. Iowa State |
| 6. Kansas State | 12. Kansas |

C-USA

This is a conference clearly on the rise. With the addition of East Carolina this year, then Army and UAB next year and Army joining in 1998, the league is becoming more appealing to incoming freshmen.

- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| 1. East Carolina | 6. UAB |
| 2. Houston | 7. Tulane |
| 3. Louisville | 8. Cincinnati |
| 4. Memphis | 9. Army |
| 5. Southern Miss | |

Pac-10

The rest of the league closed the gap on the Trojans, but USC, which signed an excellent blend of skill players to go with the brawn signed a year ago, is still king. Watch for these junior college transfers to have an early impact in the conference: Akili Smith (QB-Ore.), Jabari Jackson (RB-USC) and Keith Miller (LB-Cal).

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| 1. USC | 6. Arizona State |
| 2. UCLA | 7. Oregon |
| 3. Stanford | 8. California |
| 4. Washington | 9. Oregon State |
| 5. Arizona | 10. Washington State |

SEC

What can we say about the SEC but the rich get richer? The conference had five teams in the Top 20 and eight teams in the Top 40. Once again there will be no days off on Saturday in the SEC.

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Tennessee | 7. Georgia |
| 2. Florida | 8. Ole Miss |
| 3. LSU | 9. Arkansas |
| 4. Alabama | 10. Mississippi State |
| 5. South Carolina | 11. Kentucky |
| 6. Auburn | 12. Vanderbilt |

WAC

According to many sources close to the conference, the WAC had its greatest collective recruiting effort. Now 16 members strong, the WAC is strengthening.

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. San Diego State | 9. Wyoming |
| 2. BYU | 10. UNLV |
| 3. TCU | 11. Rice |
| 4. Fresno State | 12. SMU |
| 5. Colorado State | 13. San Jose State |
| 6. Utah | 14. Hawaii |
| 7. New Mexico | 15. UTEP |
| 8. Tulsa | 16. Air Force |

the recruiting report

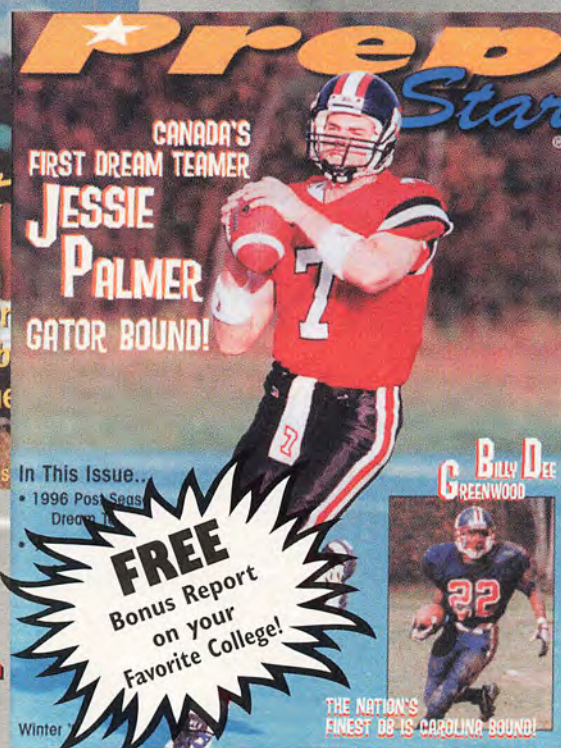
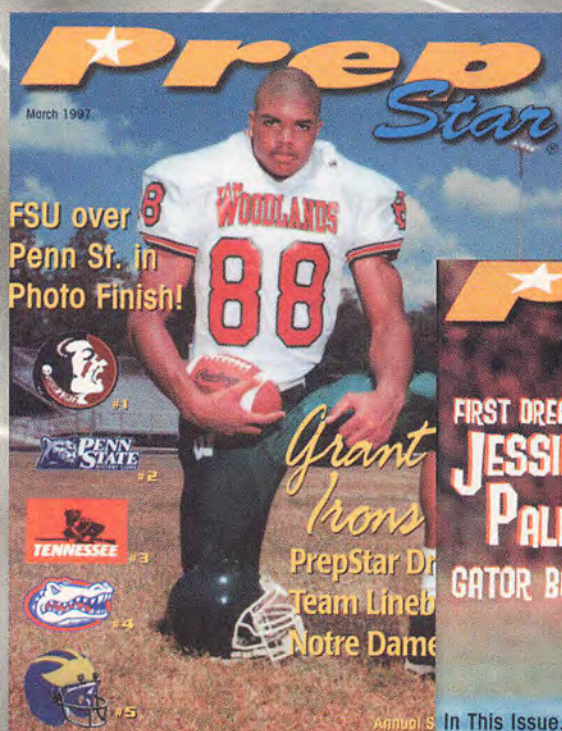
compiled by PrepStar

TOP 100 INCOMING FRESHMEN

Rank/Pos./Player	Ht.	Wt.	Speed	Hometown-High School	College	Rank/Pos./Player	Ht.	Wt.	Speed	Hometown-High School	College
1. DE David Warren	6-5	240	4.60	Tyler-J. Tyler, TX	Florida State	51. OL Jason Brooks	6-4	270	5.10	Cleveland-St. Ignatius, OH	Michigan
2. LB La Var Arrington	6-4	225	4.50	Pittsburgh-North Hills, PA	Penn State	52. RB Tony Driver	6-3	205	4.40	Louisville-Male, KY	Notre Dame
3. DE Andre Carter	6-4	245	4.55	San Jose-Oak Grove, CA	California	53. DB Derrick Gibson	6-2	190	4.60	Miami-Killian, FL	Florida State
4. QB Randy Fasani	6-3	215	4.70	Granite Bay-Del Oro, CA	Stanford	54. WR Daryl Jones	5-10	170	4.38	Dallas-Carter, TX	Miami
5. LB Alex Brown	6-3	230	4.50	White Springs-Hamilton Co., FL	Florida	55. QB Kenny Kelly	6-3	188	4.57	Tampa-Catholic, FL	Miami
6. OL Kareem McKenzie	6-6	330	5.20	Willingboro, NJ	Penn State	56. WR Reggie Germany	6-1	195	4.50	Hazelwood-East, MO	Ohio State
7. WR Steve Shipp	6-2	190	4.40	Charlotte-W. Charlotte, NC	Florida	57. QB Eric Crouch	6-0	190	4.40	Millard-North, NE	Nebraska
8. DB Billy-Dee Greenwood	6-2	185	4.40	Stamford-K.L.H.T., CT	North Carolina	58. ATH Cedric Cormier	5-11	175	4.30	Houston-North Shore, TX	Colorado
9. QB Jesse Palmer	6-3	212	4.60	Nepean-St. Pius, ON	Florida	59. WR Kahlil Hill	6-3	185	4.50	Iowa City, IA	Iowa
10. ATH Rod Perry	5-10	180	4.40	Irvine-Mater Dei, CA	USC	60. RB Travis Henry	5-10	212	4.50	Frostproof, FL	Tennessee
11. ATH Domonique Williams	6-0	205	4.43	Upper Marlboro-Gwynn Park, MD	North Carolina	61. LB Napoleon Harris	6-4	215	4.60	Dixmoor-Thornton, IL	Northwestern
12. RB Levron Williams	6-3	195	4.57	Evansville-Bosse, IN	Indiana	62. RB Ravon Anderson	5-11	190	4.32	Hoboken, NJ	North Carolina
13. RB Jamal Lewis	6-1	220	4.40	Atlanta-Douglass, GA	Tennessee	63. WR Herman Banks	6-0	164	4.40	Hartselle, AL	Auburn
14. RB Travis Minor	6-1	190	4.50	Baton Rouge-Catholic, LA	Florida State	64. QB Daniel Cobb	6-5	205	4.59	Marietta-Harrison, GA	Georgia
15. WR Ken-Yon Rambo	6-2	185	4.40	Long Beach-Poly, CA	Ohio State	65. DB Renaldo Hill	5-11	170	4.50	Detroit-Chadsey, MI	Michigan State
16. WR Brian Scott	6-4	190	4.50	Darlington, SC	South Carolina	66. LB Marco Hutchinson	6-2	215	4.70	Rock Hill-Northwestern, SC	South Carolina
17. OL Terrence Metcalf	6-3	286	4.90	Clarksdale, MS	Ole Miss	67. LB Jason Ott	6-4	235	4.70	Cincinnati-Elder, OH	Ohio State
18. LB Roylin Bradley	6-2	222	4.40	Lamarque, TX	Texas A&M	68. DE Jabari Holloway	6-4	235	4.75	Tyrone-Sandy Creek, GA	Notre Dame
19. DL Tyrone Robertson	6-5	280	4.80	Danville-G. Washington, VA	Virginia Tech	69. OL Kurt Vollers	6-7	275	4.80	Anaheim-Servite, CA	Notre Dame
20. QB Romaro Miller	6-1	190	4.50	Shannon, MS	Ole Miss	70. DL Derrick Jones	6-3	265	4.95	Pt. Jefferson-Comsewogue, NY	Maryland
21. DL Kenny Smith	6-5	290	5.00	Meridian, MS	Alabama	71. LB Kurt Anderson	6-5	230	4.90	Glenbrook, IL	Michigan
22. DB Andre Lott	6-1	185	4.50	Memphis-Melrose, TN	Tennessee	72. WR Bruce Branch	6-1	180	4.40	Richmond-Huguenot, VA	Penn State
23. WR Chris Chambers	6-1	180	4.50	Bedford, OH	Wisconsin	73. RB Patrick McCall	5-10	185	4.40	Carson, CA	Michigan
24. OL Cosey Coleman	6-5	320	5.20	Clarkston-SW Dekalb, GA	Tennessee	74. DE Kyle Vanden Bosch	6-4	235	4.60	Larchwood-W. Lyon, IA	Nebraska
25. QB Tim Olmstead	6-2	196	4.65	Binghamton, NY	Florida	75. WR Robert Williams	6-4	215	4.50	Dallas-Bishop Lynch, TX	Miami
26. TE Carver Donaldson	6-6	255	4.80	Mulberry-Kathleen, FL	Florida State	76. OL Neely Page	6-4	280	5.10	Aiken, SC	Clemson
27. LB Travis Carroll	6-4	230	4.60	Jacksonville-Bolles, FL	Alabama	77. DL Guenter Kryszon	6-4	250	4.90	Clark-Johnson, NJ	Georgia Tech
28. LB Grant Irons	6-5	225	4.60	The Woodlands-McCullough, TX	Notre Dame	78. RB Eric Gooden	6-3	215	4.50	Midwest City, OK	Kansas State
29. OL Leonard Davis	6-5	350	5.10	Wortham, TX	Texas	79. DL Gerard Warren	6-4	295	4.80	Lake Butler-Union Co., FL	Florida
30. OL Lance Clelland	6-6	285	5.10	Reistertown-McDonough, MD	Northwestern	80. DE Jamal Reynolds	6-4	240	4.65	Aiken, SC	Florida State
31. RB Jasper Sanks	6-2	215	4.50	Columbus-Carver, GA	Georgia	81. ATH Antwaan Randle El	5-11	175	4.40	Riverdale-Thornton, IL	Indiana
32. RB Antoine Womack	6-0	210	4.30	Hampton-Phoebus, VA	Virginia	82. DB John Norman	6-2	180	4.55	Midland-Lee, TX	Texas Tech
33. RB Cooper Rego	5-9	185	4.40	Montvale-St. Joe's, NJ	Notre Dame	83. QB Marques Tuiasosopo	6-1	200	4.50	Woodinville, WA	Washington
34. WR David Aaron	6-4	186	4.50	Marshall, TX	Texas	84. ATH Nate Wright	6-0	170	4.50	San Diego-Pt. Loma, CA	Colorado
35. DB Antuan Simmons	5-11	185	4.40	Sacramento-Valley, CA	USC	85. RB Derek Combs	6-2	180	4.47	Grove City, OH	Ohio State
36. OL Victor Rogers	6-6	300	5.10	Federal Way-Decatur, WA	Colorado	86. OL Luke Nichols	6-5	295	5.20	Beaumont-Kelly, TX	Baylor
37. DB Joe Walker	6-0	175	4.50	Galena-North Shore, TX	Texas	87. OL Josh Jakubowski	6-6	335	5.30	Schofield-Everest, WI	Wisconsin
38. DT Maurice Williams	6-5	245	4.77	Detroit-Pershing, MI	Michigan	88. LB Deangelo Lloyd	6-6	220	4.60	Charlotte-Independence, NC	Tennessee
39. DE Jack Bloom	6-4	235	4.50	Toms River-South, NJ	Rutgers	89. ATH Austin Kemp	6-3	210	4.55	Brentwood Academy, TN	Tennessee
40. QB Bobby Newcombe	6-0	185	4.50	Albuquerque-Highland, NM	Nebraska	90. ATH Robert Jackson	6-1	200	4.50	Corvallis-Crescent Valley, OR	Illinois
41. QB Ed Stansbury	6-2	225	4.60	El Paso-Ervin, TX	UCLA	91. LB Yubrenal Isabelle	6-2	218	4.50	Bluefield, WV	Virginia
42. RB Malaefou MacKenzie	6-0	210	4.38	Mission Viejo-Cap Valley, CA	USC	92. TE Darnell Sanders	6-6	235	4.50	Warrensville Hts., OH	Ohio State
43. DE Rocky Bright	6-4	235	4.70	Tulsa-B.T. Washington, OK	Oklahoma	93. LB Ty Gregorak	6-3	250	4.88	Spokane-West Valley, WA	Colorado
44. RB Darnell McDonald	5-11	190	4.50	Englewood-Cherry Creek, CO	Texas	94. OL Michael Barfield	6-5	270	5.00	Dothan-Northview, AL	Alabama
45. TE Alvan Morrow	6-5	240	4.70	St. Louis, Mo	Florida State	95. DB Ife Ohaletle	6-2	205	4.60	Los Alamitos, CA	USC
46. DE Corey Callens	6-3	258	4.60	Jenks, OK	Oklahoma	96. WR Julius McMillan	5-11	170	4.30	Altus, OK	Kansas State
47. FS Deon Grant	6-3	190	4.50	Augusta-Josey, GA	Tennessee	97. DL Muskingum Barnes	6-2	245	4.80	Moss Point, MS	LSU
48. LB Ron Graham	6-3	240	4.65	Pittsburgh-Penn Hills, PA	Penn State	98. DL Thomas Pittman	6-4	265	4.89	Reserve-E. St. John, LA	Auburn
49. OL Tam Hopkins	6-5	315	5.30	Winter Park-Lake Howell, FL	Ohio State	99. DB James Boyd	6-1	195	4.40	Chesapeake-Deep Creek, VA	Penn State
50. DB James Whitley	6-0	180	4.50	Norfolk-Norview, VA	Michigan	100. RB Demontray Carter	5-10	185	4.40	Pensacola, FL	Auburn

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NEXT 250 BY POSITION

QUARTERBACKS

Spencer Brinton	6-5	210	4.75	Temecula Valley, CA	San Diego State
Greg Cicero	6-4	185	4.70	Anaheim-Servite, CA	Texas
Meiko Collier	6-2	228	4.60	Cordele-Crisp Co., GA	Auburn
Woodrow Dantzler	5-11	195	4.65	Orangeburg-Wilkinson, SC	Clemson
Rohan Davey	6-3	220	4.60	Hialeah-Miami Lakes, FL	LSU
Phillip Deas	6-1	190	4.80	Bossier City-Evangel, LA	North Carolina
James Dougherty	6-4	185	4.65	Edwardsville, IL	Missouri
Lorenzo Guess	6-3	190	4.60	Wayne, MI	Michigan State
Joey Harrington	6-4	194	4.72	Portland-Central Catholic, OR	Oregon
Zak Kustock	6-2	190	4.55	Orland Park-Sandburg, IL	Notre Dame
Scott McEwan	6-3	196	4.65	Thousand Oaks, CA	UCLA
Drew Miller	6-1	190	4.70	Tacoma-Lakes, WA	BYU
Labronne Mitchell	6-3	205	4.40	Marietta, GA	Georgia
Austin Moherman	6-5	200	4.70	Mission Viejo-Capistrano Valley, CA	Ohio State
Craig Nall	6-3	207	4.82	Alexandria, LA	LSU
David Priestley	6-4	200	4.77	Cypress-Brethern Christian, CA	Ohio State
Jarrod Reese	6-3	195	4.70	Seminole, OK	Oklahoma
Matt Schobel	6-4	220	4.60	Columbus, TX	Texas A&M
J.K. Scott	6-3	200	4.90	Burbank-Burroughs, CA	Washington
B.J. Tiger	6-3	195	4.50	Tulsa-B.T. Washington, OK	Oklahoma State
Madel Williams	6-3	196	4.70	Pittsburgh-Woodland Hills, PA	Syracuse

RUNNING BACKS

Damien Anderson	5-11	195	4.50	Wilmington, IL	Northwestern
Tommy Banks	6-0	242	4.55	West Monroe, LA	LSU
Damion Barton	5-11	180	4.30	Corona-Centennial, CA	Colorado
Ladell Betts	5-11	200	4.50	Blue Springs, MO	Iowa
William Blocker	5-11	210	4.43	San Bernardino-Pacific, CA	Arizona
Correll Buckhalter	6-2	210	4.50	Mt. Olive, MS	Nebraska
Adam Cox	6-1	215	4.47	Jasper-Walker, AL	Alabama
Ali Culpepper	5-11	215	4.30	Baltimore-Dunbar, MD	Syracuse
Nejah Davenport	6-2	235	4.50	Miami-Central, FL	Miami
Marcus Fields	6-2	185	4.60	Stockton-Stagg, CA	California
Davey Ford	5-11	188	4.40	W. Palm Beach-Newman, FL	Florida State
Tyree Foreman	5-11	205	4.50	Brinklow-Sherwood, MD	Virginia
Derek Homer	5-11	190	4.56	Fl. Knox, KY	Kentucky
Tony Hyppoli	5-9	180	4.40	Miami, FL	Minnesota
Harold Jackson	6-1	245	4.60	Wilkes-Barre Gar, PA	N.C. State
Ray Jackson	6-4	210	4.60	Indianapolis-Lawrence Central, IN	Michigan
Ron Johnson	5-11	205	4.40	Pine Bluff-Watson Chapel, AR	Arkansas
Lamont Jordan	5-11	210	4.40	Forestville-Suitland, MD	Maryland
Brian Marshall	6-0	200	4.50	Southfield-Rice, MI	Northwestern
Dulymus McAllister	6-1	190	4.45	Morton, MS	Ole Miss
William McCray	6-0	215	4.32	Jacksonville-Bolles, FL	Florida State
Hodges Mitchell	5-7	185	4.30	Dallas-Skyline, TX	Texas
Dan Morgan	6-2	210	4.40	Coral Springs-Taravella, FL	Miami
Saleem Muhammad	5-11	195	4.50	Pittsburg-Desalasia, CA	California
James Mungro	5-10	190	4.55	East Stroudsburg, PA	Syracuse
Jason Murray	6-2	235	4.50	Belle Vernon, PA	Notre Dame
Sean Penny	6-2	215	4.55	Youngstown-Ursuline, OH	Ohio State
Stanley Peters	5-8	170	4.38	Pauls Valley, OK	Oklahoma
Chris Ramseur	6-1	211	4.60	Maiden, NC	Tennessee
Eric Reese	5-11	185	4.40	Lynwood-St. Anthony's, CA	USC
Dominic Rhodes	5-9	190	4.40	Abilene-Cooper, TX	Texas Tech
Anthony Saunders	6-2	210	4.60	Greensboro-W. Guilford, NC	North Carolina
Jamar Sheppard	6-1	190	4.40	San Francisco-Sacred Heart, CA	California
Kevin Sinclair	5-9	200	4.55	Ocean City, NJ	Rutgers
Demetrius Smith	6-2	265	4.60	Calumet Park-Richards, IL	Michigan
Anthony Thomas	6-2	220	4.50	Winnfield, LA	Michigan
Albert Tupulotu	6-1	220	4.45	San Mateo, CA	Washington
Ed Wilder	6-2	250	4.60	Washington-Wilkes, GA	Georgia Tech
Antonio Williams	6-0	218	4.40	Tuscaloosa-Central, AL	Alabama
Jimmy Williams	5-11	185	4.40	Baton Rouge-Episcopal, LA	Vanderbilt
Coy Wire	6-1	205	4.50	Camp Hill-Cedar Cliff, PA	Stanford
Travis Zachery	6-2	185	4.40	Marietta, GA	Clemson

WIDE RECEIVERS

Abram Booty	6-2	175	4.40	Shreveport-Evangel, LA	LSU
O.J. Conner	6-3	180	4.50	Gary-Westside, IN	Indiana
Jeremy Cooper	6-0	170	4.50	Swedsboro-Kingsway, NJ	Syracuse
Sam Crenshaw	6-4	200	4.50	Youngstown-Rayen, OH	Penn State
Dallas Davis	5-10	165	4.40	Fort Collins, CO	Colorado State
Robert Davis	5-9	175	4.45	Shreveport-Evangel, LA	LSU
Joey Getherall	5-9	165	4.23	LaPuente-Bishop Amat, CA	Notre Dame
Brian Haugbrook	6-1	200	4.50	Wildwood, FL	Florida
Ahmad Hawkins	5-10	180	4.50	Hampton, VA	Virginia
Roman Hollwell	5-7	155	4.45	Denver-Mullen, CO	Colorado
JaWarren Hooker	5-11	165	4.30	Ellensburg, WA	Washington
Cody Joyce	6-1	193	4.43	Saugus-Hart, CA	UCLA
David Martin	6-5	210	4.53	Norfolk-Norview, VA	Tennessee
Maurice Minter	6-4	210	4.40	Ossining, NY	Syracuse
Freddie Mitchell, II	6-0	175	4.45	Lakeland-Kathleen, FL	UCLA

Robert Morgan	6-0	180	4.40	East Point-Tri Cities, GA	Florida State
Brandon Nash	6-2	195	4.48	Los Angeles, CA	Arizona
Eric Parker	6-0	163	4.43	Shorewood, IL	Tennessee
Jermaine Phillips	6-2	195	4.50	Roswell, GA	Georgia
Brian Poli-Dixon	6-4	195	4.50	Tucson-Sabino, AZ	UCLA
Patrick Reddick	5-9	180	4.42	Newbury Park, CA	Washington
Carlos Spikes	6-1	190	4.45	Tallahassee-N. Fla. Christian, FL	South Carolina
Justin Taplin	6-0	180	4.50	Tempe, AZ	Arizona State
J.T. Thatcher	6-1	175	4.40	Norman, OK	Oklahoma
Reggie Wayne	6-2	190	4.50	Marrero-Ehret, LA	Miami

TIGHT ENDS

Jovon Bush	6-5	265	4.60	Hardesville-Jasper Co., SC	Clemson
Marlon Davis	6-7	235	4.80	Eastman-Dodge Co., GA	Alabama
Joe Domingeaux	6-5	245	4.75	Crowley, LA	LSU
Lonnie Ford	6-3	220	4.60	San Diego-Morse, CA	USC
John Gilmore	6-4	230	4.70	Wernersville-West Lawn, PA	Penn State
Doug Ginapp	6-4	245	4.70	Arlington-Houston, TX	Texas
Antoine Harris	6-4	220	4.80	Los Angeles-Loyola, CA	USC
Chad Irwin	6-4	230	4.79	Baytown-Lee, TX	Texas
Eric James	6-2	225	4.60	Wash-Anacostia, Dc	Maryland
Miles Koon	6-5	240	4.70	Flower Mound-Marcus, TX	Colorado
Nate Krill	6-7	235	4.70	McLean, VA	Duke
Austin Lee	6-5	250	4.80	Coeur d'Alene-Post Falls, ID	Stanford
Graham Manley	6-3	220	4.80	Olney-Sherwood, MD	Syracuse
Corey Smith	6-4	245	4.85	Galt, CA	California
Brandon Stephens	6-6	230	4.63	Logan, UT	BYU
John Teasdale	6-4	255	4.90	Kansas City-Rockhurst, MO	Notre Dame
John Westra	6-5	235	4.80	Mesa-Red Mountain, AZ	Washington
Matt Wright	6-5	240	4.87	Boca Raton-Pine Crest, FL	Stanford

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Braxton Anderson	6-5	270	5.00	Franklin-Simpson, KY	Louisville
Ronald Boldin	6-6	270	5.10	Pahokee, FL	Florida State
Ben Brown	6-5	275	5.00	Clearwater-Countryside, FL	Florida
Joe Collins	6-8	290	5.10	Darien-K.L.H.T., CT	Northwestern
Tom Coury	6-3	335	5.00	Tarentum-Highlands, PA	Pitt
Jason Cox	6-5	315	5.60	Edgefield-Thurmond, SC	South Carolina
Troy Danoff	6-4	280	5.00	Albuquerque-La Cueva, NM	UCLA
Todd Davis	6-5	280	5.00	Union, SC	South Carolina
Adam Fay	6-5	290	5.20	Bettendorf, IA	Northwestern
Andre Guro	6-3	285	5.00	Houston-N. Shore, TX	Colorado
DeCoryre Hampton	6-7	325	5.00	Memphis-Westwood, TN	Memphis
Kyle Kolimorgen	6-4	275	5.20	Lincoln-Southeast, NE	Nebraska
Bryan Kula	6-4	285	5.15	Phoenix-Brophy Prep, AZ	Arizona
Lynn Larabee	6-3	245	5.00	Oklahoma City-Western Hts., OK	Oklahoma
Matt Lehr	6-3	260	5.10	Woodbridge, VA	Virginia Tech
Ben Mast	6-5	275	5.00	Massillon-Washington, OH	Michigan
Seth McKinney	6-4	280	4.90	Austin-Westlake, TX	Texas A&M
Josh Mitchell	6-5	270	5.10	Doyelstown-C. Bucks East, PA	Penn State
Todd Mossa	6-3	285	5.30	Darien, CT	Michigan
Sean O'Connor	6-4	275	4.80	Morristown, NJ	Syracuse
Melvin Paige	6-5	305	4.80	Dillon, SC	South Carolina
Josh Parrish	6-6	310	5.20	Westerville-South, OH	Kentucky
Scott Peters	6-3	305	4.90	Pleasanton-Amador Valley, CA	Arizona State
Mike Pucillo	6-4	275	5.10	Brandon, FL	Auburn
David Pugh	6-3	265	4.70	Madison Heights-Amherst Co., VA	Virginia Tech
Greg Ransom	6-3	300	5.00	Hamburg-Walkill, NJ	Penn State
Jon Rutherford	6-3	270	4.94	Midwest City, OK	Nebraska
Terdell Sands	6-6	280	5.00	Chattanooga-Howard, TN	Tennessee
Michael Souza	6-7	290	5.20	Kaneohe-Punahou, HI	Northwestern
Erik Strange	6-4	289	5.00	Orlando-Boone, FL	Florida
Kenyatta Walker	6-6	285	4.95	Meridian, MS	Florida
Langston Walker	6-7	290	5.13	Oakland-O'Dowd, CA	California
Mike Wambolt	6-4	285	5.20	New Hall-Hart, CA	Colorado
Fred Weary	6-5	260	4.95	Montgomery-Lee, AL	Tennessee
Ed Wilkins	6-5	265	4.90	Plainfield, NJ	Miami
Ralph Zara	6-5	275	4.90	Tucson, AZ	Arizona State

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Rodney Bailey	6-5	260	4.90	Lakewood-St. Edwards, OH	Ohio State
Rocky Bernard	6-3	255	5.00	Baytown-Sterling, TX	Texas A&M
Chris Brooks	6-4	250	4.80	Newton, TX	Arkansas
Derek Burns	6-6	275	5.00	Eden Prairie, MN	Minnesota
Kenyon Coleman	6-5	260	4.90	Alta Loma, CA	UCLA
Char-Ron Dorsey	6-7	315	5.00	Jacksonville-Bolles, FL	Florida State
Jeremy Dox	6-2	275	4.90	St. Paul-Cretin-Derham Hall, MN	Wisconsin
Jarvis Green	6-3	235	4.60	Donaldsonville, LA	LSU
Aaron Habermann	6-3	265	4.80	Harland-Arrowhead, WI	Wisconsin
Marcus Hoover	6-4	245	4.80	Philadelphia-Abington, PA	Stanford
Johnny Jackson	6-3	260	4.90	San Diego-St. Augustine, CA	Colorado
Ken Jackson	6-4	305	4.90	New Orleans-St. Aug. LA	Miami
Lonnie Madison	6-4	235	4.70	The Woodlands-McClough, TX	Texas A&M
Damien Mallery	6-4	250	4.60	Syracuse-Henniger, NY	Syracuse
Sam Matthews	6-6	275	4.87	Jacksonville-Bolles, FL	Alabama
Tango McCauley	6-4	260	4.70	Oklahoma City-Marshall, OK	Texas A&M

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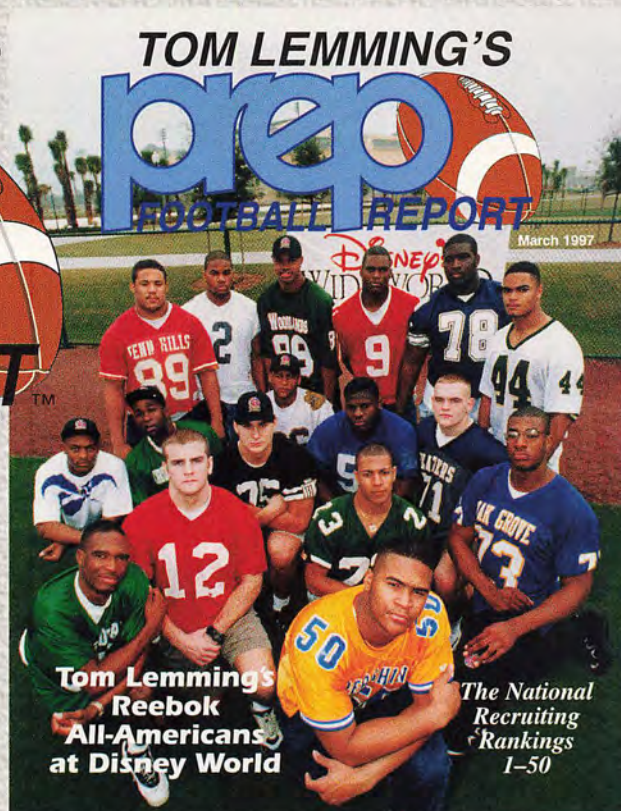
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Tommy Moody	6-5	270	4.70	Seville-Taylor, FL	Florida
Ryan Nielsen	6-5	235	4.80	Simi Valley-Royal, CA	USC
Larry Paul	6-3	247	4.90	Moody, AL	Alabama
Cleveland Pinkney	6-2	270	4.80	Sumter, SC	South Carolina
Melvin Richey	6-4	280	4.80	Decatur-Southwest Dekalb, GA	LSU
DeVane Robinson	6-3	260	4.80	Midwest City, OK	Kansas State
Shaun Rogers	6-5	268	4.90	La Porte, TX	Texas
Alonzo Shuler	6-3	245	4.60	Calhoun-St. Matthew's, SC	South Carolina
Kendall Simmons	6-3	314	5.00	Ripley, MS	Auburn
Jesse Simms	6-3	265	4.80	Norwalk-K.L.H.T, CT	UCLA
Ben Sobieski	6-6	285	4.95	Mahtomedi, MN	Iowa
Stephen Sua	6-1	257	4.80	Tustin, CA	UCLA
Anthony Thomas	6-3	240	4.70	Pasadena, CA	Arizona
Josh Weldon	6-4	260	4.90	Cordele-Crisp Co., GA	Auburn
Adrian Wilson	6-3	310	4.90	Jacksonville, AR	Miami
Tracey Wistrom	6-5	205	4.70	Webb, MO	Nebraska

LINEBACKERS

Monty Beisel	6-4	240	4.50	Douglass, KS	Kansas State
Courtland Bullard	6-3	215	4.55	Miami-Southridge, FL	Ohio State
Mike Burke	6-2	210	4.57	Denver-Mullen, CO	Stanford
Jamie Burrow	6-2	240	4.70	Ames, IA	Nebraska
James Callier	6-1	223	4.70	Miami-Killian, FL	Auburn
Derrell Daniels	6-1	210	4.60	San Fernando-Sylmar, CA	Washington
Andra Davis	6-2	240	4.70	Live Oak-Suwannee, FL	Florida
Anthony Denmon	6-3	205	4.40	Rusk, TX	Notre Dame
Kennard Ellis	6-2	225	4.50	Orlando-Dr. Phillips, FL	Florida
Asa Francis	6-2	205	4.70	Ft. Lauderdale-Plantation, FL	Auburn
Jake Frysinger	6-3	220	4.80	Grosse Ile, MI	Michigan
Santi Hall	6-2	242	4.60	Moreno Valley-Valley View, CA	UCLA
Jerrold Hayden	6-1	215	4.50	Louisville-Easter, KY	Tennessee
Hugh Holmes	6-2	210	4.50	Kissimmee-Osceola, FL	Notre Dame
Darion Hutcherson	6-1	205	4.60	Atlanta-Douglass, GA	South Carolina
Ben Leber	6-3	235	4.70	Vermillion, SD	Kansas State
Joe McKinney	6-3	238	4.70	Valencia-Mars, PA	Penn State
Joel Mesman	6-3	245	4.70	Grand Rapids-S. Christian, MI	Michigan State
Matt Miller	6-4	230	4.60	Alpharetta-Marist, GA	Georgia Tech
Brandon Moore	6-2	205	4.40	Freeport-Baldwin, NY	Oklahoma
Zeke Moreno	6-3	240	4.60	Chula Vista-Castle Park, CA	USC
Tom O'Brien	6-4	235	4.70	La Grange Park-Nazareth, IL	Northwestern
Merceda Perry	6-4	230	4.70	Asheboro, NC	North Carolina
Tony Peters	6-0	215	4.60	Sapulpa-Tulsa McLain, OK	Oklahoma
Michael Pollard	6-1	220	4.58	Long Beach-Poly, CA	USC
Tavarreus Pounds	6-1	206	4.60	Villa Rica, GA	Auburn
Christian Rodriguez	6-3	223	4.50	Mesquite, TX	Texas A&M
Tim Shear	6-2	208	4.80	Junction City, OR	Oregon
Whit Smith	6-4	225	4.75	Cordele-Crisp Co., GA	Auburn
Josh Spoerl	6-2	220	4.54	Mesquite, TX	Texas
Chris Wheeler	6-1	225	4.55	Sylacauga-Comer, AL	Alabama

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Kecalf Bailey	5-10	175	4.30	Tuscaloosa-Central, AL	Alabama
Albus Brooks	6-1	180	4.57	Claremont, CA	Colorado
Robert Carswell	6-2	218	4.50	Stone Mountain, GA	Clemson
Zimbalist Carter	6-2	180	4.37	Riverside-Poly, CA	Colorado
Wondame Davis	5-11	160	4.45	Denver-Manual, CO	Washington
Tony Dixon	6-2	190	4.50	Reform-Pickens Co., AL	Alabama
Markese Fitzgerald	5-11	180	4.60	St. Petersburg-Hollins, FL	Miami
Maurice Fitzgerald	5-10	180	4.50	Nashville-Pearl-Cohn, TN	Tennessee
Jason Glenn	6-2	205	4.50	Houston-Nimitz, TX	Texas A&M
Quentin Harris	6-0	175	4.50	Wilkes-Barre-Meyers, PA	Syracuse
Michael Hayes	6-4	210	4.65	Opelousas, LA	LSU
Abdual Howard	6-1	190	4.40	Quincy-Shanks, FL	Florida State
Ron Israel	6-1	175	4.45	Haddon Heights, NJ	Notre Dame
Quentin Jammer	6-1	180	4.40	Angleton, TX	Texas
Riley Jefferson	5-11	180	4.40	Jersey City-Bayonne, NJ	Rutgers
Darryl Knight	6-2	195	4.58	Riverside-Rubidoux, CA	USC
Omare Lowe	6-0	175	4.48	Maple Valley-Tahoma, WA	Washington
Marquand Manuel	6-0	193	4.40	Miami, FL	Florida
J.D. Mathis	6-0	170	4.50	Pampa, TX	Oklahoma
Leonard Myers	6-0	175	4.50	Fort Lauderdale-Dillard, FL	Miami
William Norwood	6-5	195	4.55	Englewood, NJ	Temple
Willie Offord	6-2	195	4.40	Palatka, FL	South Carolina
Rob Pate	6-2	195	4.50	Birmingham-Erwin, AL	Auburn
Garrett Sabol	6-0	187	4.60	La Palma-Kennedy, CA	Oregon
Stanford Simmons	6-3	195	4.50	Ashland-Clay Co., AL	Auburn
Jason Stephens	6-2	180	4.40	Highland, CA	UCLA
Clevon Thomas	6-0	175	4.55	Miami, FL	Florida State
Mike Wilson	6-0	190	4.32	Corona-Centennial, CA	Arizona

PLACEKICKERS

Sebastian Janikowski	6-2	215	4.70	Daytona Beach-Seabreeze, FL	Florida State
Greg Owens	5-11	200	4.90	Stuart-St. Edwards, FL	Virginia

ATHLETES

Rufus Brown	6-1	195	4.40	Belzoni-Humphreys Co., MS	North Carolina
Stacy Davis	6-4	205	4.55	Tallahassee-Godby, FL	Florida State
Tyres Dickson	6-1	175	4.30	Houston-Scarborough, TX	Texas
Kris Richard	6-0	170	4.30	Carson-Serra, CA	USC
Clifton Robinson	5-8	190	4.50	Naples-Collier, FL	Auburn
Eric Rosel	6-5	200	4.43	Liberal, KS	Michigan
Justin Smith	6-1	185	4.50	St. Petersburg-Lakewood, FL	Notre Dame
Irwin Swiney	6-1	180	4.42	Lincoln-Southeast, NE	Nebraska
Andrew Zow	6-1	210	4.60	Lake Butler-Union Co., FL	Alabama

TOP 50 IN ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE

By Position

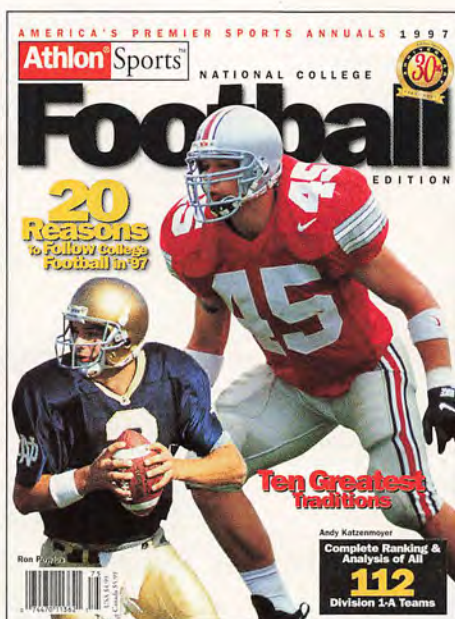
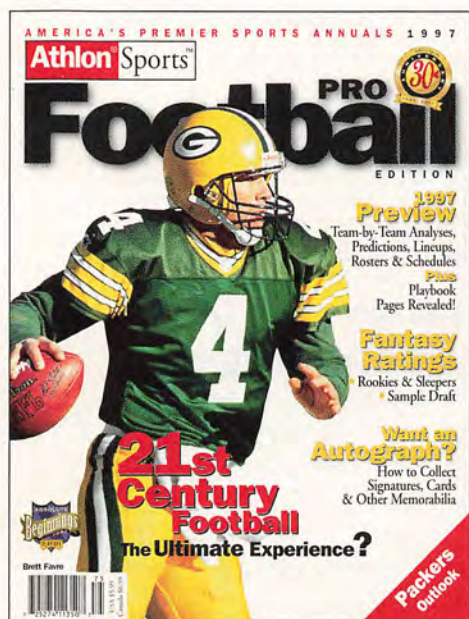
QB	Woodrow Dantzler	5-11	195	4.65	Orangeburg-Wilkinson, SC	Clemson
QB	Phillip Deas	6-1	190	4.80	Bossier City-Evangel, LA	North Carolina
QB	Dan Ellis	6-3	216	4.70	Exton-Downingtown, PA	Virginia
RB-DB	Ravon Anderson	5-11	190	4.32	Hoboken, NJ	North Carolina
RB	Davey Ford	5-11	188	4.40	W. Palm Beach-Newman, FL	Florida State
RB	Tyree Foreman	5-11	205	4.50	Brinklow-Sherwood, MD	Virginia
FB-LB	Harold Jackson	6-1	245	4.60	Wilkes-Barre Gar, PA	N.C. State
RB	Lamont Jordan	5-11	210	4.40	Forestville-Suitland, MD	Maryland
RB	William McCray	6-0	215	4.32	Jacksonville-Bolles, FL	Florida State
RB	Travis Minor	6-1	190	4.50	Baton Rouge-Catholic, LA	Florida State
RB	Anthony Saunders	6-2	210	4.60	Greensboro-W. Guilford, NC	North Carolina
FB	Ed Wilder	6-2	250	4.60	Washington-Wilkes, GA	Georgia Tech
RB	Antoine Womack	6-0	210	4.30	Hampton-Phoebe, VA	Virginia
RB	Travis Zachery	6-2	185	4.40	Hampton, VA	Clemson
WR	Jimmy Caldwell	5-10	165	4.60	Winston Salem-Mt. Tabor, NC	Wake Forest
WR	Ahmad Hawkins	5-10	180	4.50	Hampton, VA	Virginia
WR	Robert Morgan	6-0	180	4.40	East Point-Tri Cities, GA	Florida State
TE-DL	Jovon Bush	6-5	265	4.60	Hardesville-Jasper Co., SC	Clemson
TE	Carver Donaldson	6-6	255	4.80	Lakeland-Kathleen, FL	Florida State
TE	Eric James	6-2	225	4.60	Washington-Anacostia, DC	Maryland
TE	Nate Krill	6-7	235	4.70	McLean, VA	Duke
TE	Alvan Morrow	6-5	240	4.70	Kirkwood, MO	Florida State
TE-LB	Monsanto Pope	6-3	230	4.70	Hopewell, VA	Virginia
OL	Ronald Boidin	6-6	270	5.10	Pahokee, FL	Florida State
OL	Michael Byrne	6-5	285	5.10	Hinesville-Bradwell Inst., GA	Georgia Tech
OL	Neely Page	6-4	280	5.10	Aiken, SC	Clemson
OL	Evan Routzahn	6-6	285	5.20	Middletown, MD	Virginia
NG	Derek Allen	6-2	270	4.90	Duluth, GA	N.C. State
DE-LB	Stacy Davis	6-4	205	4.55	Tallahassee-Godby, FL	Florida State
DL	Char-Ron Dorsey	6-7	315	5.00	Jacksonville-Bolles, FL	Florida State
DL	Josh Graham	6-3	265	4.80	Denver-Jefferson, CO	North Carolina
DL	Derrick Jones	6-3	265	4.95	Port Jefferson-Comsewogue, NY	Maryland
DL	Gunter Kryszon	6-4	250	4.90	Clark-Johnson, NJ	Georgia Tech
DL-OL	Jason Ptak	6-3	265	4.70	Wyandotte, MI	Duke
DE	Jamal Reynolds	6-4	240	4.65	Aiken, SC	Florida State
DE	David Warren	6-5	240	4.60	Tyler-J. Tyler, TX	Florida State
LB	Sedrick Hodge	6-5	210	4.50	Augusta-Westminister, GA	North Carolina
LB-RB	Yubrenal Isabelle	6-2	218	4.50	Bluefield, WV	Virginia
LB	Matt Miller	6-4	230	4.60	Alpharetta-Marist, GA	Georgia Tech
LB	Merceda Perry	6-4	230	4.70	Asheboro, NC	North Carolina
DB	Robert Carswell	6-2	218	4.50	Stone Mountain, GA	Clemson
DB	Michael Clinkscale	6-1	180	4.45	Youngstown-Chaney, OH	Wake Forest
DB	Derrick Gibson	6-2	190	4.60	Miami-Killian, FL	Florida State
DB-RB	Billy-Dee Greenwood	6-2	185	4.40	Stamford-K.L.H.T, CT	North Carolina
DB	Abdual Howard	6-1	190	4.40	Quincy-Shanks, FL	Florida State
DB	Devon Simmons	5-10	192	4.50	Highland Springs, VA	Virginia
DB	Clevon Thomas	6-0	175	4.55	Miami, FL	Florida State
PK	Sebastian Janikowski	6-2	215	4.70	Daytona Beach-Seabreeze, FL	Florida State
PK	Greg Owens	5-11	200	4.90	Stuart-St. Edwards, FL	Virginia
ATH	Rufus Brown	6-1	195	4.40	Belzoni-Humphreys Co., MS	North Carolina
ATH	Domonique Williams	6-0	205	4.43	Upper Marlboro-Gwynn Park, MD	North Carolina

TOP 50 IN BIG EAST CONFERENCE

By Position

QB	Andrew Keating	6-5	200	4.75	Germantown-Valley View, OH	West Virginia
QB	Kenny Kelly	6-3	188	4.57	Tampa-Catholic, FL	Miami
QB	Madei Williams	6-3	196	4.70	Pittsburgh-Woodland Hills, PA	Syracuse
RB	All Culppepper	5-11	215	4.30	Baltimore-Dunbar, MD	Syracuse
RB	Nejah Davenport	6-2	235	4.50	Miami-Central, FL	Miami
RB	Kenny Harris	5-11	175	4.40	Buffalo-St. Joseph's, NY	Pitt
LB	Camryn Jackson	5-11	215	4.50	Madison Heights-Amherst Co., VA	Virginia Tech
FB	Dan Morgan	6-2	210	4.40	Coral Springs-Taravella, FL	Miami
RB	James Mungro	5-10	190	4.55	East Stroudsburg, PA	Syracuse

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the recruiting report

RB	Kevin Sinclair	5-9	200	4.55	Ocean City, NJ	Rutgers
RB	Wayne Ward	5-11	190	4.50	Plant City, FL	Virginia Tech
WR	Richard Bryant	6-0	175	4.45	Pahokee, FL	West Virginia
WR	Jeremy Cooper	6-0	170	4.50	Kingsway, NJ	Syracuse
WR	Delrico Fletcher	6-2	195	4.50	Braddock-Woodland Hills, PA	Rutgers
WR	Maurice Jackson	5-10	175	4.29	Rochester-Marshall, NY	Syracuse
WR	Daryl Jones	5-10	170	4.38	Dallas-Carter, TX	Miami
WR	Maurice Minter	6-4	210	4.40	Ossining, NY	Syracuse
WR	Reggie Wayne	6-2	190	4.50	Marrero-Ehret, LA	Miami
WR	Robert Williams	6-4	215	4.50	Dallas-Bishop Lynch, TX	Miami
WR-DB	Chamari Willis	6-1	180	4.40	Inwood-Lawrence, NY	West Virginia
TE	Joe Conlin	6-5	245	4.90	Greensburg-C. Catholic, PA	Pitt
TE	Kevin Crane	6-4	235	4.70	Wixom-Western, MI	Boston College
TE-LB	Jim Ferugio	6-2	225	4.70	St. Clair-Pottsville, PA	Virginia Tech
TE	Graham Manley	6-3	220	4.80	Olney-Sherwood, MD	Syracuse
TE	Billy Tulloch	6-3	225	4.64	Union, NJ	Rutgers
OL	Martin Bibla	6-4	275	5.00	Mountaintop-Crestwood, PA	Miami
OL	Joseph Burton	6-5	270	5.10	Greenwich, CT	Syracuse
OL	Tom Coury	6-3	335	5.00	Tarentum-Highlands, PA	Pitt
OL	Jason Hopewell	6-7	290	5.10	Highland Park, NJ	Rutgers
OL	Matt Knapp	6-6	313	5.60	Stoney Brook-St. Anthony's, NY	Boston College
OL	Matt Lehr	6-3	260	5.10	Woodbridge, VA	Virginia Tech
OL	Sean O'Connor	6-4	275	4.80	Morristown, NJ	Syracuse
OL	David Pugh	6-3	265	4.70	Madison Heights-Amherst Co., VA	Virginia Tech
OL	Jeremy Sherman	6-6	300	5.21	Reynoldsburg, PA	West Virginia
OL	Ed Wilkins	6-5	265	4.90	Plainfield, NJ	Miami
OL	Paul Zukauskas	6-5	280	5.10	Weymouth-B.C., MA	Boston College
DL	Chad Beasley	6-4	235	5.00	Gate City, VA	Virginia Tech
DE	Jack Bloom	6-4	235	4.50	Toms River-South, NJ	Rutgers
DL	Ken Jackson	6-4	305	4.90	New Orleans-St. Augustine, LA	Miami
DE	Damien Mallory	6-4	250	4.60	Syracuse-Henniger, NY	Syracuse
DL	Tyrone Robertson	6-5	280	4.80	Danville-G. Washington, VA	Virginia Tech
DL	Adrian Wilson	6-3	310	4.90	Jacksonville, AR	Miami
LB	Bryan Knight	6-1	205	4.59	Buffalo-St. Joe's, NY	Pitt
LB	John Yura	6-0	200	4.50	Morgantown, WV	West Virginia
DB	Larry Austin	5-10	190	4.45	Norfolk-Norview, VA	Virginia Tech
DB	Markese Fitzgerald	5-11	180	4.60	St. Petersburg-Hollins, FL	Miami
DB	Quentin Harris	6-0	175	4.50	Wilkes-Barre-Meyers, PA	Syracuse
DB	Riley Jefferson	5-11	180	4.40	Jersey City-Bayonne, NJ	Rutgers
DB	Leonard Myers	6-0	175	4.50	Fort Lauderdale-Dillard, FL	Miami
DB	William Norwood	6-5	195	4.55	Englewood, NJ	Temple

TOP 50 IN BIG TEN CONFERENCE

By Position

QB	Lorenzo Guess	6-3	190	4.60	Wayne, MI	Michigan State
QB	David Priestley	6-4	200	4.77	Cypress-Brethren Christian, CA	Ohio State
RB	Damien Anderson	5-11	195	4.50	Wilmington, IL	Northwestern
RB	Ladell Betts	5-11	200	4.50	Blue Springs, MO	Iowa
RB	Derek Combs	6-2	180	4.47	Grove City, OH	Ohio State
RB	Tony Hyppolite	5-9	180	4.40	N. Miami Beach, FL	Minnesota
RB	Brian Marshall	6-0	200	4.50	Southfield-Rice, MI	Northwestern
RB	Patrick McCall	5-10	185	4.40	Carson, CA	Michigan
RB	Sean Penny	6-2	215	4.55	Youngstown-Ursuline, OH	Ohio State
FB	Demetrius Smith	6-2	265	4.60	Calumet Park-Richards, IL	Michigan
RB	Anthony Thomas	6-2	220	4.50	Winnfield, LA	Michigan
RB	Levon Williams	6-3	195	4.57	Evansville-Bosse, IN	Indiana
WR	Bruce Branch	6-1	180	4.40	Richmond-Huguenot, VA	Penn State
WR	Chris Chambers	6-1	180	4.50	Bedford, OH	Wisconsin
WR	O.J. Conner	6-3	180	4.50	Gary-Westside, IN	Indiana
WR	Sam Crenshaw	6-4	200	4.50	Youngstown-Rayen, OH	Penn State
WR	Reggie Germany	6-1	195	4.50	Hazelwood-East, MO	Ohio State
WR	Kahlil Hill	6-3	185	4.50	Iowa City, IA	Iowa
TE	John Gilmore	6-4	230	4.70	Wernersville-West Lawn, PA	Penn State
TE-LB	Napoleon Harris	6-4	215	4.60	Dixmoor-Thornton, IL	Northwestern
TE	Darnell Sanders	6-6	235	4.50	Warrensburg Hts., OH	Ohio State
OL	Jason Brooks	6-4	270	5.10	Cleveland-St. Ignatius, OH	Michigan
OL	Lance Clelland	6-6	275	5.10	Reisterstown-McDonough, MD	Northwestern
OL	Adam Fay	6-5	290	5.20	Bettendorf, IA	Northwestern
OL	Tam Hopkins	6-5	315	5.30	Winter Park-Lake Howell, FL	Ohio State
OL	Josh Jakubowski	6-6	335	5.30	Schofield-Everest, WI	Wisconsin
OL	Ben Mast	6-5	275	5.00	Massillon-Washington, OH	Michigan
OL	Kareem McKenzie	6-6	330	5.20	Willingboro, NJ	Penn State
OL	Josh Mitchell	6-5	270	5.10	Doylestown-C. Bucks East, PA	Penn State
OL	Michael Souza	6-7	290	5.20	Kaneche-Punahou, HI	Northwestern
DL	Rodney Bailey	6-5	260	4.90	Lakewood-St. Edwards, OH	Ohio State
DL-OL	Derek Burns	6-6	275	5.00	Eden Prairie, MN	Minnesota
DL	Jeremy Dox	6-2	275	4.90	St. Paul-Cretin-Derham Hall, MN	Wisconsin
DL	Aaron Habermann	6-3	265	4.80	Hartland-Arrowhead, WI	Wisconsin
DL-OL	Ben Sobieski	6-6	285	4.90	Mahtomadi, MN	Iowa
DL	Maurice Williams	6-5	245	4.77	Detroit-Pershing, MI	Michigan
LB	Kurt Anderson	6-5	230	4.90	Glenbrook, IL	Michigan
LB	La Var Arrington	6-4	225	4.50	Pittsburgh-North Hills, PA	Penn State

LB	Courtland Bullard	6-3	215	4.55	Miami-Southridge, FL	Ohio State
LB	Jake Frysinger	6-3	220	4.80	Grosse Ile, MI	Michigan
LB	Ron Graham	6-3	240	4.65	Pittsburgh-Penn Hills, PA	Penn State
LB	Joe McKinney	6-3	238	4.70	Valencia-Mars, PA	Penn State
LB	Joel Mesman	6-3	245	4.70	Grand Rapids-S. Christian, MI	Michigan State
LB	Tom O'Brien	6-4	235	4.70	La Grange Park-Nazareth, IL	Northwestern
LB	Jason Ott	6-4	235	4.70	Cincinnati-Elder, OH	Ohio State
DB	Renaldo Hill	5-11	170	4.50	Detroit-Chadsey, MI	Michigan State
DB	James Whitley	6-0	180	4.50	Norfolk-Norview, VA	Michigan
ATH	James Boyd	6-1	195	4.40	Chesapeake-Deep Creek, VA	Penn State
ATH	Robert Jackson	6-1	200	4.50	Corvallis-Crescent Valley, OR	Illinois
ATH	Antwaan Randle El	5-11	175	4.40	Riverdale-Thornton, IL	Indiana
ATH	Eric Rosel	6-5	200	4.43	Liberal, KS	Michigan

TOP 50 IN BIG TWELVE CONFERENCE

By Position

QB	Greg Cicero	6-4	185	4.70	Anaheim-Servite, CA	Texas
QB	Eric Crouch	6-0	190	4.40	Millard-North, NE	Nebraska
QB	James Dougherty	6-4	185	4.65	Edwardsville, IL	Missouri
QB	Bobby Newcombe	6-0	185	4.50	Albuquerque-Highland, NM	Nebraska
QB	Matt Schobel	6-4	220	4.60	Columbus, TX	Texas A&M
QB	B.J. Tiger	6-3	195	4.50	Tulsa-B.T. Washington, OK	Oklahoma State
RB	Damion Barton	5-11	180	4.30	Corona-Centennial, CA	Colorado
RB	Correll Buckhalter	6-2	210	4.50	Mt. Olive, MS	Nebraska
RB	Eric Gooden	6-3	215	4.50	Midwest City, OK	Kansas State
RB	Darnell McDonald	5-11	190	4.50	Englewood-Cherry Creek, CO	Texas
RB	Hodges Mitchell	5-7	185	4.30	Dallas-Skyline, TX	Texas
RB	Dominic Rhodes	5-9	190	4.40	Abilene-Cooper, TX	Texas Tech
WR	David Aaron	6-4	186	4.50	Marshall, TX	Texas
WR	Cedric Cormier	5-11	175	4.30	Houston-North Shore, TX	Colorado
WR	Roman Hollowell	5-7	155	4.45	Denver-Mullen, CO	Colorado
WR	Julius McMillian	5-11	170	4.30	Altus, OK	Kansas State
WR	J.T. Thatcher	6-1	175	4.40	Norman, OK	Oklahoma
OL	Leonard Davis	6-5	350	5.10	Wortham, TX	Texas
OL	Andre Gurode	6-3	285	5.00	Houston-North Shore, TX	Colorado
OL	Lynn Larabee	6-3	245	5.00	Oklahoma City-Western Hts., OK	Oklahoma
OL	Seth McKinney	6-4	280	4.90	Austin-Westlake, TX	Texas A&M
OL	Luke Nichols	6-5	295	5.20	Beaumont-Kelly, TX	Baylor
OL	Victor Rogers	6-6	300	5.10	Federal Way-Decatur, WA	Colorado
OL	Jon Rutherford	6-3	270	4.94	Midwest City, OK	Nebraska
OL	Mike Wambolt	6-4	285	5.20	New Hall-Hart, CA	Colorado
DL	Rocky Bernard	6-3	255	5.00	Baytown-Sterling, TX	Texas A&M
DE	Rocky Bright	6-4	235	4.70	Tulsa-B.T. Washington, OK	Oklahoma
DE	Corey Callens	6-3	258	4.60	Jenks, OK	Oklahoma
DE	Lonnie Madison	6-4	235	4.70	The Woodlands-McCullough, TX	Texas A&M
DE-TE	Tango McCauley	6-4	260	4.70	Oklahoma City-Marshall, OK	Texas A&M
DL-OL	DeVane Robinson	6-3	260	4.80	Midwest City, OK	Kansas State
DL	Shaun Rogers	6-5	268	4.90	La Porte, TX	Texas
DE	Kyle Vanden Bosch	6-4	235	4.60	Larchwood-W. Lyon, IA	Nebraska
LB	Monty Beisel	6-4	240	4.50	Douglass, KS	Kansas State
LB	Roylin Bradley	6-2	222	4.40	Lamarque, TX	Texas A&M
LB	Jamie Burrow	6-2	240	4.70	Ames, IA	Nebraska
LB	Ty Gregorak	6-3	250	4.88	Spokane-West Valley, WA	Colorado
LB	Ben Leber	6-3	235	4.70	Vermillion, SD	Kansas State
LB	Brandon Moore	6-2	205	4.40	Freeport-Baldwin, NY	Oklahoma
LB	Tony Peters	6-0	215	4.60	Sapulpa-Tulsa McLain, OK	Oklahoma
LB	Christian Rodriguez	6-3	223	4.50	Mesquite, TX	Texas A&M
LB	Josh Spoerl	6-2	222	4.54	N. Mesquite, TX	Texas
DB	Albus Brooks	6-1	180	4.57	Claremont, CA	Colorado
DB	Jason Glenn	6-2	205	4.50	Houston-Nimitz, TX	Texas A&M
DB	Quenton Jammer	6-1	180	4.40	Angleton, TX	Texas
DB	John Norman	6-2	180	4.55	Midland-Lee, TX	Texas Tech
DB	Joe Walker	6-0	175	4.50	Galena Park-North Shore, TX	Texas
DB	Nate Wright, Jr.	6-0	170	4.50	San Diego-Point Loma, CA	Colorado
ATH	Zimbalist Carter	6-2	180	4.37	Riverside-Poly, CA	Colorado
ATH	Tyres Dickson	6-1	175	4.30	Houston-Scarborough, TX	Texas

TOP 50 IN CONFERENCE USA*

By Position

QB	Stephen Galbraith	6-1	190	4.60	Marietta-Lassiter, GA	Memphis
QB	David Garrard	6-3	240	4.90	Durham-S. Durham, NC	East Carolina
QB	Gary Gumm	6-4	210	4.80	Louisville-Doss, KY	Louisville
QB	Jeff Kelly	6-2	200	4.80	Citronelle, AL	Southern Miss
QB	Arnie Powell	6-5	205	4.80	Deep Creek, VA	East Carolina
QB	Jeff Tippetts	6-3	190	4.50	Jacksonville, AL	UAB
RB	Toney Converse	5-9	170	4.42	Metairie-Riverdale, LA	Tulane
RB	Corey Harris	5-10	185	4.50	Houston-Clearlake, TX	Houston

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RB	Leonard Henry	6-1	195	4.60	Clinton, NC
Fb	Kyle Rea	6-3	210	4.55	Russellville, AL
RB	Barry Smith	5-11	200	4.50	Marrero-Shaw, LA
RB	Dawayne Woods	5-10	185	4.32	Slidell-Salmen, LA
WR	Daniel Belcha	6-4	180	4.50	Ft. Worth-Wyatt, TX
WR	Dushawn Dorsey	6-2	170	4.50	Somerville, NJ
WR	Kenyon Hambrick	6-2	170	4.40	Huntsville-Johnson, AL
WR	Orlando Iglesias	6-3	200	4.40	Miami-Coral Park, FL
WR-DB	Travis Johnson	6-3	180	4.50	Jacksonville, AL
WR	Tootie Myers	5-11	180	4.45	Petal, MS
WR	Zander Robinson	5-9	170	4.40	Marrero-Ehret, LA
TE	Marcus Bryson	6-5	240	4.70	Laurens, SC
TE	Corey Floyd	6-3	335	4.70	Trenton, NJ
TE	Ed Kelley	6-5	230	4.70	Houston-MacArthur, TX
OL	Braxton Anderson	6-5	270	5.00	Franklin-Simpson, KY
OL	Jabari Beauford	6-4	300	5.32	Houston-Jesuit, TX
OL	Tony Cunningham	6-2	275	4.90	River Ridge-Curtis, LA
OL	Aaron Darzinski	6-2	265	5.20	Garfield Heights, OH
OL	Rob Eble	6-7	275	5.20	Marietta-Walton, GA
OL	Philip Gambrell	6-6	295	5.00	Florence-Coffee, AL
OL	Carl Greene	6-7	270	5.30	Louisville-Trinity, KY
OL	DeCorye Hampton	6-7	325	5.00	Memphis-Westwood, TN
OL-DL	David Sherrod	6-7	315	5.10	Atkins, AR
DE	Marcus Bell	6-4	285	4.70	Memphis-Kingsbury, TN
DE-TE	Orlando Dantzler	6-4	262	4.80	Purvis, MS
DL-OL	Julian Gibson	6-4	270	5.10	Elizabeth, NJ
DL	Chris Howell	6-3	266	5.10	Greenville-Rose, NC
DE-TE	Ty Hunt	6-6	220	4.70	Hickory, NC
DL	Ernie Moore	6-4	250	5.30	Slidell-Salmen, LA
DE	Patrick Willis	6-3	240	4.70	Memphis-Kingsbury, TN
LB-FB	Tommie Baldwin	5-11	200	4.50	Houston-MacArthur, TX
LB	Pernell Griffin	6-3	221	4.70	Williamston, NC
LB	Tyrone Griffin	6-1	205	4.60	Rome, GA
LB	Sam Hairston	6-2	240	4.60	Ft. W. Bch.-Choctaw, Shalimar, FL
LB	Hosea James	6-4	218	4.60	Jacksonville, NC
LB	Corey Sears	6-2	215	4.70	Montgomery-Lee, AL
LB	Brant Stogner	6-2	238	4.60	El Campo, TX
DB	Darrell Griffith Jr.	6-1	175	4.40	Louisville-Ballard, KY
DB	Bachie McGruder	5-11	165	4.48	Waxahachie, TX
DB	Antonio Roundtree	5-9	175	4.50	Jacksonville-Bolles, FL
RB	Kendall Williams	6-3	225	4.40	Dallas-Roosevelt, TX
ATH	Deontey Kenner	6-2	180	4.65	Hopkinsville, KY

*Note: UAB, a C-USA charter member, begins football league play in 1999.

TOP 50 IN PACIFIC-10 CONFERENCE

By Position

QB	Randy Fasani	6-3	215	4.70	Granite Bay-Del Oro, CA	Stanford
QB	Joey Harrington	6-4	194	4.72	Portland-Central Catholic, OR	Oregon
QB	Ed Stansbury	6-2	225	4.60	El Paso-Ervin, TX	UCLA
QB	Marques Tuiasosopo	6-1	200	4.50	Woodinville, WA	Washington
RB	William Blocker	5-11	210	4.43	San Bernardino-Pacific, CA	Arizona
RB	Marcus Fields	6-2	185	4.60	Stockton-Stagg, CA	California
RB	Malaeou MacKenzie	6-0	200	4.38	Mission Viejo-Capistrano Valley, CA	USC
RB	Coy Wire	6-1	205	4.50	Camp Hill-Cedar Cliff, PA	Stanford
WR-RB	JaWarren Hooker	5-11	165	4.30	Ellensburg, WA	Washington
WR	Cody Joyce	6-1	193	4.43	Saguas-Hart, CA	UCLA
WR	Freddie Mitchell II	6-0	175	4.45	Lakeland-Kathleen, FL	UCLA
WR	Brandon Nash	6-2	195	4.48	Beverly Hills, CA	Arizona
WR	Brian Poli-Dixon	6-4	195	4.50	Tucson-Sabino, AZ	UCLA
WR	Justin Taplin	6-0	180	4.50	Tempe, AZ	Arizona State
TE	Lonnie Ford	6-3	220	4.60	San Diego-Morse, CA	USC
TE-LB	Antoine Harris	6-4	220	4.80	Los Angeles-Loyola, CA	USC
TE	Austin Lee	6-5	250	4.80	Coeur d'Alene-Post Falls, ID	Stanford
TE-LB	Corey Smith	6-4	245	4.85	Galt, CA	California
TE-DE	John Westra	6-5	235	4.80	Mesa-Red Mountain, AZ	Washington
TE	Matt Wright	6-5	240	4.87	Boca Raton-Pinecrest, FL	Stanford
OL	Troy Danoff	6-4	280	5.00	Albuquerque-La Cueva, NM	UCLA
OL-DL	Bryan Kula	6-4	285	5.15	Phoenix-Brophy Prep, AZ	Arizona
OL	Scott Peters	6-3	305	4.90	Pleasanton-Amador Valley, CA	Arizona State
OL	Langston Walker	6-7	290	5.13	Oakland-O' Dowd, CA	California
OL	Ralph Zarate	6-5	275	4.90	Tucson, AZ	Arizona State
DL	Andre Carter	6-4	245	4.55	San Jose-Oak Grove, CA	California
DL	Kenyon Coleman	6-5	260	4.90	Alta Loma, CA	UCLA
DE	Marcus Hoover	6-4	245	4.80	Philadelphia-Abington, PA	Stanford
DL	Ryan Nielsen	6-5	235	4.80	Simi Valley-Royal, CA	USC
DL	Jesse Simms	6-3	265	4.80	Norwalk-K.L.H.T., CT	UCLA
DL	Stephen Sua	6-1	257	4.80	Tustin, CA	UCLA
DL	Anthony Thomas	6-3	240	4.70	Pasadena, CA	Arizona
LB	Mike Burke	6-2	210	4.57	Denver-Mullen, CO	Stanford
LB	Derrell Daniels	6-1	210	4.60	San Fernando-Sylmar, CA	Washington
LB	Santi Hall	6-2	242	4.60	Moreno Valley-Valley View, CA	UCLA

LB	Zeke Moreno	6-3	240	4.60	Chula Vista-Castle Park, CA	USC
LB	Michael Pollard	6-1	220	4.58	Long Beach-Poly, CA	USC
LB	Tim Shear	6-2	208	4.80	Junction City, OR	Oregon
LB-RB	Albert Tuipulotu	6-1	220	4.45	San Mateo, CA	Washington
DB	Wondame Davis	5-11	160	4.45	Denver-Manual, CO	Washington
DB	Darryl Knight	6-2	195	4.58	Riverside-Rubidoux, CA	USC
DB	Omare Lowe	6-0	175	4.48	Maple Valley-Tahoma, WA	Washington
DB-RB	Saleem Muhammad	5-11	195	4.50	Pittsburg-De la Salle, CA	California
DB	Ife Ohalet	6-2	205	4.60	Los Alamitos, CA	USC
DB	Garrett Sabol	6-1	185	4.60	La Palma-Kennedy, CA	Oregon
DB	Antuan Simmons	5-11	185	4.40	Sacramento-Valley, CA	USC
DB	Jason Stephens	6-2	180	4.40	Highland, CA	UCLA
DB	Mike Wilson	6-0	190	4.32	Corona-Centennial, CA	Arizona
ATH	Rod Perry	5-10	180	4.40	Irvine-Mater Dei, CA	USC
ATH	Kris Richard	6-0	170	4.30	Gardena-Sierra, CA	USC

TOP 50 IN SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

By Position

QB	Daniel Cobb	6-5	205	4.59	Marietta-Harrison, GA	Georgia
QB	Rohan Davey	6-3	220	4.60	Hialeah-Miami Lakes, FL	LSU
QB	Romaro Miller	6-1	180	4.50	Shannon, MS	Ole Miss
QB	Tim Olmstead	6-2	196	4.65	Binghamton, NY	Florida
QB	Jesse Palmer	6-3	212	4.60	Nepean-St. Pius, ON	Florida
FB	Tommy Banks	6-0	242	4.55	West Monroe, LA	LSU
RB	Demontray Carter	5-10	185	4.40	Pensacola, FL	Auburn
FB	Adam Cox	6-1	220	4.47	Jasper-Walker, AL	Alabama
RB	Travis Henry	5-10	212	4.50	Frostproof, FL	Tennessee
FB	Ron Johnson	5-11	205	4.40	Pine Bluff-Watson Chapel, AR	Arkansas
RB	Jamal Lewis	6-1	220	4.40	Atlanta-Douglass, GA	Tennessee
RB	Dylums McAllister	6-1	190	4.45	Morton, MS	Ole Miss
RB	Jasper Sanks	6-2	215	4.50	Columbus-Carver, GA	Georgia
RB	Antonio Williams	6-0	218	4.40	Tuscaloosa-Central, AL	Alabama
RB	Jimmy Williams	5-11	185	4.40	Baton Rouge-Episcopal, LA	Vanderbilt
WR	Herman Banks	6-0	164	4.40	Hartselle, AL	Auburn
WR	Abram Booty	6-2	175	4.40	Shreveport-Evangeli, LA	LSU
WR	Robert Davis	5-9	175	4.45	Shreveport-Evangeli, LA	LSU
WR	Jermaine Phillips	6-2	195	4.50	Roswell, GA	Georgia
WR	Brian Scott	6-4	190	4.50	Darlington, SC	South Carolina
WR	Steve Shipp	6-2	190	4.40	Charlotte-W. Charlotte, NC	Florida
TE	Joe Domingaux	6-5	245	4.75	Crowley, LA	LSU
OL	Michael Barfield	6-5	270	5.00	Dothan-Northview, AL	Alabama
OL	Ben Brown	6-5	275	5.00	Clearwater-Countryside, FL	Florida
OL	Cosey Coleman	6-5	320	5.20	Clarkston-S.W. Dekalb, GA	Tennessee
OL	Jason Cox	6-5	315	5.60	Edgefield-Thurmond, SC	South Carolina
OL	Terrence Metcalf	6-3	286	4.90	Clarksdale, MS	Ole Miss
OL	Melvin Paige	6-5	305	4.80	Dillon, SC	South Carolina
OL	Mike Pucillo	6-4	275	5.10	Brandon, FL	Auburn
OL	Fred Weary	6-5	260	4.95	Montgomery-Lee, AL	Tennessee
DL	Muskingum Barnes	6-2	245	4.80	Moss Point, MS	LSU
DE	Jarvis Green	6-3	235	4.60	Donaldsonville, LA	LSU
DL	Sam Matthews	6-6	275	4.87	Jacksonville-Bolles, FL	Alabama
DL-OL	Tommy Moody	6-4	270	4.70	Seville-Taylor, FL	Florida
DL	Thomas Pittman	6-4	265	4.89	Reserve-E. St. John, LA	Auburn
DE	Alonzo Shuler	6-4	245	4.60	St. Matthew's-Calhoun Co., SC	South Carolina
DL	Kenny Smith	6-5	290	5.00	Meridian, MS	Alabama
DL	Gerard Warren	6-4	295	4.80	Railford-Union Co., FL	Florida
DL	Josh Weldon	6-4	260	4.90	Cordelle-Crisp Co., GA	Auburn
LB	Alex Brown	6-3	230	4.50	White Springs-Hamilton Co., FL	Florida
LB	Travis Carroll	6-4	230	4.60	Jacksonville-Bolles, FL	Alabama
LB	Kennard Ellis	6-2	225	4.50	Orlando-Dr. Phillips, FL	Florida
LB	Jerrold Hayden	6-1	215	4.50	Louisville-Easter, KY	Tennessee
LB	Darion Hutcherson	6-1	205	4.60	Atlanta-Douglas, GA	South Carolina
LB	Marco Hutchinson	6-2	215	4.70	Rock Hill-Northwestern, SC	South Carolina
LB	DeAngelo Lloyd	6-6	220	4.60	Charlotte-Independence, NC	Tennessee
DB	Kecalf Bailey	5-10	175	4.30	Tuscaloosa-Central, AL	Alabama
DB	Maurice Fitzgerald	5-10	180	4.50	Nashville-Pearl Cohn, TN	Tennessee
FS	Deon Grant	6-3	190	4.50	Augusta-Josey, GA	Tennessee
DB-WR	Andre Lott	6-1	185	4.50	Memphis-Melrose, TN	Tennessee
DB	Marquand Manuel	6-0	193	4.40	Miami, FL	Florida
DB	Stanford Simmons	6-3	195	4.50	Ashland-Clay Co., AL	Auburn
ATH	Austin Kemp	6-3	210	4.55	Nashville-Brentwood Acad., TN	Tennessee

TOP 50 IN WESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

By Position

QB	Spencer Brinton	6-5	210	4.75	Temecula Valley, CA	San Diego State
QB	David Carr	6-3	195	4.80	Bakersfield-Stockdale, CA	Fresno State
QB	Drew Miller	6-1	190	4.70	Tacoma-Lakes, WA	BYU
QB	Ken Stopka	6-3	185	4.60	Palatine, IL	New Mexico

top high school seniors

TOP 100 NATIONAL BLUE CHIPS

By Position

QUARTERBACKS

Ronald Curry	6-4	200	Hampton, VA
Steve Cutlip	6-2	185	Arvada-West, CO
Adam Dunn	6-5	230	New Caney, TX
Drew Henson	6-4	215	Brighton, MI
Matt Holiday	6-5	220	Stillwater, OK
Luke Huard	6-4	210	Puyallup, WA
Jared Jones	6-5	180	Walla Walla, WA
Keith Matkins	6-5	200	Charlotte-W. Charlotte, NC
Ryan McCann	6-2	185	Agoura, CA
Corey Paus	6-3	200	New Lenox-Lincolnway, IL
Brian St. Pierre	6-4	195	Danvers-St. John, LA
Jason Thomas	6-4	200	Compton-Dominguez, CA
Tyler Watts	6-3	200	Pelham, AL

RUNNING BACKS

Andre Ackee	5-11	218	Little Rock-McClellan, AR
Jonathan Adams	6-1	188	Ocala, AR
Nick Davis	5-10	175	Pompano Beach-Ely, FL
Ed Drummond	5-11	175	Wheeling-Linsly, WV
Justin Fargas	5-11	185	Sherman Oaks-Notre Dame, CA
Ben Gay	6-1	205	Spring, TX
Earnest Graham	5-11	208	Cape Coral-Mariner, FL
Antoine Harris	6-1	191	Bolingbrook, IL
Arlen Harris	5-10	190	Downingtown, PA
Herman Ho-Ching	6-0	205	Long Beach-Poly, CA
Chris Hope	6-1	195	Rock Hill, SC
Kyran Jones	6-1	175	Peoria, AZ
Tommy Lopienski	6-3	235	Stowe-Walsh Jesuit, OH
Demeco Moore	6-1	195	Colorado Springs-Sierra, CO
Josh Norman	6-2	230	Midland-Lee, TX
Latroy Oliver	5-9	185	Hartford-Weaver, CT
Brandon Williams	6-0	200	New Kensington-Valley, PA

WIDE RECEIVERS

Anthony Daye	6-1	180	Burlington-Cummings, NC
David Givens	6-0	185	Humble, TX
Broderick Nelson	6-2	190	Hollywood-S. Broward, FL
Chris Oliver	6-2	200	Homewood-Flossmoor, IL
Roger Ross	5-10	175	Denver-Jefferson, CO
David Terrell	6-3	185	Richmond-Huegonet, VA
Marquise Walker	6-4	195	Syracuse-Henninger, NY

TIGHT ENDS

Bobby Blizzard	6-6	225	Hampton, VA
John Day	6-5	235	Hyattsville-Dematha, MD
R.J. Luke	6-3	220	Aurora-Waubensie Valley, IL
Dave Petruziello	6-5	270	Mentor-Lk. Catholic, OH

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Gus Felder	6-5	300	Berwick, PA
Howard Green	6-4	295	Donaldsonville, LA
Joe Hayes	6-7	310	Mt. Holly-Rancocas, NJ
Al Johnson	6-4	275	Brussels-Southern Door, WI
Josh Melton	6-6	300	Batesville, AR
Jeff Roehl	6-5	280	Orland Park-Sandburg, IL
Mike Saffer	6-6	280	Tucson-Sabino, AZ
Ryan Scarolla	6-5	305	Murrysville-Franklin Reg., PA
Matt Schmitt	6-5	275	Allison Park-Hampton, PA
Dwight Slater	6-5	265	Miami-Southridge, FL
Chris Smith	6-5	280	Bronx-Lehman, NY
Jon Stinchcomb	6-7	275	Lilburn-Parkview, GA
Brett Williams	6-5	290	Kissimmee-Osceola, FL
Blake Worley	6-7	270	Mission Viejo-Cap Valley, CA

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Mike Clay	6-3	260	Aldine-Nimitz, TX
Jovon Flemmons	6-4	290	Marion, IN
Antonio Garay	6-4	260	Rahway, NJ
Tyler Greenbaum	6-3	240	Hartland-Arrowhead, WI
John Henderson	6-7	265	Nashville-Pearl Cohn, TN
Dennis Johnson	6-7	256	Harrodsburg, KY
Terry Jones	6-4	245	Tuscaloosa-Central, AL
Kindell Moorehead	6-4	262	Memphis-Melrose, TN
Osa Nosa	6-4	310	Homestead-S. Dade, FL
Kenny Peterson	6-4	250	Canton-McKinley, OH
Chris Reynolds	6-3	270	Tall-Lincoln, FL
Terin Smith	6-4	220	Folkston-Charlton Co., GA

LINEBACKERS

Antonio Banks	6-3	205	Lincoln-Southeast, NE
Derek Barnett	6-4	230	Evansville-Harrison, IN
Howard Clark	6-2	215	Pennsauken, NJ
David Ellen	6-2	230	Flower Mound-Marcus, TX
Shamar Finney	6-3	230	Shelby-Crest, NC
Charles Grant	6-4	230	Fayetteville-Fayette Co., GA
Bernard Jackson	6-3	252	Louis-St. Xavier, KY
Aaron Kampman	6-4	230	Applington-Parkersburg, IA
Robert Malone	6-3	215	Prichard-Blount, AL
Jesse Miller	6-3	215	Sanderson-Waco, GA
Carlos Pierre-Antoine	6-3	220	Seattle-O'Dea, WA
Eddie Strong	6-3	210	Batesville-S. Panola, MS
Greg White	6-3	225	Newark-Shabazz, NJ
William Witherspoon	6-3	223	Springfield-Rutherford, FL

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Terreal Bierra	6-3	195	Slidell-Salmen, LA
Marcus Coleman	6-2	180	Fairfield-Central, SC
Robert Cromartie	6-0	180	Atlanta-Douglass, GA
Larry Foote	6-2	225	Detroit-Pershing, MI
DMaurice McClain	6-0	175	Elizabeth, NJ
Samuel Sanford	5-11	170	Miami-Carol City, FL
Carl Williams	6-0	190	Excelsior Springs, MO
Roy Williams	6-2	190	Union City-Logan, CA

PLACEKICKERS

Preston Gruening	5-10	165	Schofield-D.C. Everest, WI
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ATHLETES

Rodney Bailey	6-4	205	Folkston-Charlton Co., GA
Montrel Flowers	5-9	170	Dallas-Skyline, TX
Harold Harris	6-1	185	Malvern, AR
Derrick Joseph	6-0	185	Marrero-Shaw, LA
Eric Locke	5-11	175	Murfreesboro-Riverdale, TN
Sultan McCullough	6-0	180	Pasadena-Muir, CA
Mike McNair	6-2	225	Santa Ana-Mater Dei, CA
Julian Peppers	6-6	235	Bailey-S. Nash, NC

TOP BLUE CHIPS WESTERN REGION

By Position

QUARTERBACKS

Taylor Barton	6-2	180	Beaverton, OR
Steve Cutlip	6-2	185	Arvada-West, CO
Jason Gesser	6-2	180	Honolulu-St. Louis, HI
Luke Huard	6-4	210	Puyallup, WA
Jared Jones	6-5	180	Walla Walla, WA
Ryan McCann	6-2	185	Agoura, CA
Carson Palmer	6-4	200	Santa Margarita, CA
Jason Thomas	6-4	200	Compton-Dominguez, CA

RUNNING BACKS

Antrel Bates	6-0	170	Tucson-Amphitheatre, AZ
Jason Cooper	6-0	190	S.J.-Mitty, CA
Justin Fargas	5-11	185	Sherman Oaks-Notre Dame, CA
Herman Ho-Ching	6-0	205	Long Beach-Poly, CA
Kyran Jones	6-1	175	Peoria, AZ
Brian McDonald	6-2	196	Buena Park, CA
Demeco Moore	6-1	195	Colorado Springs-Sierra, CO
Andre Perry	6-1	180	Fontana, CA
Vince Reed	6-0	185	Anaheim-Servite, CA
Tyran Slaughter	5-11	185	Banning, CA
Vinny Walker	6-0	200	N. Hills-Monroe, CA
Jason Willis	6-0	170	Playa Del Rey-St. Bernard, CA

WIDE RECEIVERS

Roger Ross	5-10	175	Denver-Jefferson, CO
Donte Stallworth	6-1	175	Sacramento-Grant, CA

TIGHT ENDS

Tyler Brayton	6-5	225	Pasco, WA
John Dubravac	6-4	210	Denver-Mullen, CO
Billy Silva	6-4	245	San Diego-St. Aug., CA

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Jordan Andrade	6-3	240	Arvada-West, CO
Mike Belisle	6-6	290	Coos Bay-Marshfield, OR
Mark Christiansen	6-4	270	Laverne-Damien, CA
Charlie Dutra	6-6	295	Millbrae-Mills, CA
Joe Foster	6-3	260	Long Beach-Jordan, CA
Scott Lesure	6-5	280	Port Angeles, WA
Mike Saffer	6-6	280	Tucson-Sabino, AZ
Ray Solis	6-4	275	Sylmar, CA
Scott Weigand	6-8	280	Arcadia, CA
Blake Worley	6-7	270	Mission Viejo-Cap Valley, CA

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Tony Benford	6-4	260	Denver-Jefferson, CO
Chris Jackson	6-4	250	Kentridge, WA
Casey Rowland	6-4	260	Rocklin, CA
Tony Tata	6-4	250	Honolulu-St. Louis, HI
Doug Whiting	6-3	245	Pittsburg, CA

LINEBACKERS

Mike Alves	6-2	215	San Diego-St. Aug., CA
Chris Hakim	6-2	215	Sprg. Valley-Monte Vista, CA
Kendall Kuykendall	6-1	222	San Diego-University, CA
Carlos Pierre-Antoine	6-3	220	Seattle-O'Dea, WA

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Michael Ainsworth	6-1	170	Monrovia, CA
David Martin	5-11	175	Concord-De Lasalle, CA
Roy Williams	6-2	190	Union City-Logan, CA

top high school seniors

ATHLETES

Derrick Dillon	6-1	160	Puyallup-Rogers, WA
Sultan McCullough	6-0	180	Pasadena-Muir, CA
Mike McNair	6-2	225	Santa Ana-Mater Dei, CA
Fidel Pugh	6-2	220	San Francisco-Gallileo, CA

TOP BLUE CHIPS SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

By Position

QUARTERBACKS

Chip Ambres	6-0	175	Beaumont-West Brook, TX
Adam Dunn	6-5	230	New Caney, TX
Matt Holiday	6-5	220	Stillwater, OK
Damian James	6-1	195	Carencro, LA
Andre Ackee	5-11	218	Little Rock-McClellan, AR

RUNNING BACKS

Jonathan Adams	6-1	188	Oceola, AR
Ben Gay	6-1	205	Spring, TX
Leo Mills	6-2	205	Humble, TX
Josh Norman	6-2	230	Midland-Lee, OK

WIDE RECEIVERS

David Givens	6-1	208	Humble, TX
Willie Young	6-3	180	K.C.-Wyandotte, KS

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Justin Blaud	6-6	290	Chillicothe, MO
Howard Green	6-4	295	Donaldsonville, LA
Chad Hertzog	6-4	290	Lee's Summit, MO
Gary Hobbs	6-5	280	Ft. Smith-Southside, AR
Josh Melton	6-6	300	Batesville, AR
Chris Redding	6-4	310	Galena-N. Shore, TX
Brad Smalling	6-6	320	W. Monroe, LA
Brady Washburn	6-5	270	Fayetteville, AR

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Craig Albrecht	6-5	255	St. Louis-Burroughs, MO
Mike Clay	6-3	260	Aldine-Nimitz, TX
Harry Frank	6-7	240	Eunice, LA
Mario Ivy	6-2	205	Edwardsville, IL
Jamarcus Joshua	6-1	280	Aldine-Nimitz, TX
Eugene Langford	6-3	245	Wichita-West, KS
Jason Lohr	6-3	265	Jenks, OK
Frank Romero	6-5	240	Moore, OK
Trent Smith	6-5	210	Clinton, OK
Kerry Watkins	6-5	280	Independence, LA

LINEBACKERS

Kevin Aldridge	6-1	225	Jacksonville, TX
Jermaine Anderson	6-3	205	Texas City, TX
Rocky Calmus	6-3	215	Jenks, OK
Brian Gamble	6-4	210	Alto, TX
Marcus Mosley	6-4	215	Dallas-S. Oak Cliff, TX
Scott Summers	6-2	240	Bryant, AR
Nathan Woodard	6-0	205	Hitchcock, TX

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Terreal Bierra	6-3	195	Slidell-Salmen, LA
Atiba Dauzart	5-10	165	Carencro, LA
Kervin Ellis	6-1	170	Galena-N. Shore, TX
Elex Evans	5-11	165	Galena-N. Shore, TX
Lee Jackson	6-4	185	Longview, TX
Quason Jackson	5-10	170	Grain Valley, MO
Cliff Jefferson	6-0	190	Dallas-Carter, TX
Carl Williams	6-0	190	Excelsior Springs, MO

ATHLETES

Dawight Benning	6-1	195	Katy-Mayde Creek, TX
Keith Dangerfield	6-4	220	Patterson, LA
Montrel Flowers	5-9	170	Dallas-Skyline, TX
Harold Harris	6-1	185	Malvern, AR
Derrick Joseph	6-0	185	Marrero-Shaw, LA
John Lewis	6-0	175	Port Arthur-Jefferson, TX

TOP BLUE CHIPS MID-ATLANTIC REGION

By Position

QUARTERBACKS

Todd Cunningham	6-2	200	Irmo, SC
Ronald Curry	6-4	200	Hampton, VA
Keith Matkins	6-5	200	Charlotte-W. Charlotte, NC
Mike Vick	6-2	180	Newport News-Warwick, VA

RUNNING BACKS

Nate Gary	6-1	195	Laurens, SC
Chris Hope	6-1	195	Rock Hill, SC
Cato June	6-1	193	Wash-Anacostia, DC
John Stone	6-3	250	Chapmanville, WV
Marcus Wade	6-0	185	Largo, MD

WIDE RECEIVERS

Chelsey Borders	6-1	175	Shelby-Crest, NC
Jay Chapman	6-2	190	Washington-Anacostia, DC
Anthony Daye	6-1	180	Burlington-Cummings, NC
Willis Ham	6-2	190	Columbia-Spring Valley, SC
Ronnie Hamilton	5-10	175	Oxford-Webb, NC
Marcus Martin	6-3	185	Crozet-W. Albemarle, VA
C.J. Smith	5-10	165	Owings Mill-McDonough, MD
David Terrell	6-3	185	Richmond-Huegonet, VA

TIGHT ENDS

Bobby Blizzard	6-6	225	Hampton, VA
John Day	6-5	235	Hyattsville-Dematha, MD
Montique Sharpe	6-2	245	Washington-Dunbar, DC
Chris Thigpen	6-4	260	Fairfield-Central, SC

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Phoenix Evans	6-3	285	Kinston, NC
Tim Falls	6-4	260	Damascus, MD
Butch Jefferson	6-3	285	Forest-Jefferson Forest, VA
Bryant Malloy	6-4	281	Shelby-Crest, NC
Michael McNeil	6-3	290	Wilkesboro-Wilkes Cent. N., NC
Felix Nieves	6-6	350	Hampton-Bethel, VA
Luke Owens	6-5	280	Grundy, VA
Joe Patrick	6-3	265	Clemmons-W. Forsyth, NC

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Tonnie Baldwin	6-2	270	Washington-Phelps, DC
Marlon Hicks	6-3	265	Hampton-Kecoughtan, VA

LINEBACKERS

Darnell Hollier	6-2	235	Hampton, VA
Kedion Carter	6-3	227	Oxon Hill-Potomac, MD
Shamar Finney	6-3	230	Shelby-Crest, NC
Ryan Funke	6-2	220	Mauldin, SC
Jake Housewright	6-3	220	Gate City, VA
Mark Strickland	6-2	220	Wilson-Hunt, NC
Keyon Whiteside	6-1	214	Forest City-Chase, NC

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Marcus Coleman	6-2	180	Fairfield-Central, SC
Phillip Crumb	5-10	189	Raleigh-Millbrook, NC
Ed Drummond	5-11	175	Wheeling-Linsly, WV
James Gee	6-1	185	Baltimore-City College, MD
Gerald Singletary	5-11	165	Washington-Dunbar, DC
Ronyell Whitaker	5-9	185	Norfolk-Lk. Taylor, VA

ATHLETES

Eric Meekins	6-3	180	Easley, SC
Julian Peppers	6-6	235	Bailey-S. Nash, NC
Ryan Raley	6-4	205	Frostburg-Beall, MD
Chanston Rogers	6-0	218	Danville-G. Washington, VA
Rolando Shuler	6-5	230	St. Matthews-Calhoun Co., SC
Travis Turner	6-4	195	Appalachia, VA

TOP BLUE CHIPS MIDWEST REGION

By Position

QUARTERBACKS

Dane Fife	6-4	185	Clarkston, MI
Drew Henson	6-4	215	Brighton, MI
Dan Jordan	6-1	185	Joliet-Township, IL
Kurt Kittner	6-3	205	Shamburg, IL
Corey Paus	6-3	200	New Lenox-Lincolnway, IL
Ryan Van Dyke	6-6	205	Battle Creek-Harper Creek, MI

RUNNING BACKS

Julius Curry	6-1	190	Lharer Woods-Harper Woods, MI
Tony Fisher	6-1	190	Euclid, OH
Little-Johnflowers	6-1	205	Kalamazoo-Lox Norrix, MI
Antoneo Harris	6-1	191	Bolingbrook, IL
Tommy Lopienski	6-3	235	Stowe-Walsh Jesuit, OH
Greg Owens	6-1	185	Des Moines-East, IA
Scott Steele	6-3	260	Southgate-Aquinas, MI
Randy Stella	6-1	195	Omaha-Benson, NE
Josh Thornhill	6-3	225	Lansing-Eastern, MI
Vince Webber	5-10	190	Elgin-Larkin, IL
Wiz White	5-11	185	Cincinnati-Woods, OH

WIDE RECEIVERS

Javon Hunter	6-0	170	Detroit-Country Day, MI
Chris Oliver	6-2	200	Homewood-Flossmoor, IL
A.T. Simpson	6-5	195	Indianapolis-Cathedral, IN

top high school seniors

TIGHT ENDS

R.J. Luke	6-3	220
Dave Petruziello	6-5	270

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Lecharles Bentley	6-3	240	Cleveland-St. Ignatius, OH
Joel Denay	6-7	310	Bay City-Glenn, MI
Paul Harker	6-4	290	Dayton-Chaminade, OH
Al Johnson	6-4	275	Brussels-Southern Door, WI
Ben Johnson	6-6	295	Brussels-Southern Door, WI
Kevin Kramer	6-4	275	Palatine, IL
Jeff Roehl	6-5	280	Orland Park-Sandburg, IL

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Jovon Flemmons	6-4	290	Marion, IN
Tom Gohlston	6-4	265	Cincinnati-Purcell Marion, OH
Tyler Greenbaum	6-3	240	Hartland-Arrowhead, WI
Keith Jenkins	6-4	275	Chadron, OH
Kenny Peterson	6-4	250	Canton-Mckinley, OH

LINEBACKERS

Antonio Banks	6-3	205	Lincoln-Southeast, NE
Derek Barnett	6-4	230	Evansville-Harrison, IN
Dustin Devries	6-2	218	Applington-Parkersburg, IA
Ray Eddington	6-4	230	Detroit-King, MI
Aaron Kampman	6-4	230	Applington-Parkersburg, IA
Mike Miller	6-2	220	Akron-Buchtel, OH
John Nurczyk	6-4	240	Minooka, IL
Astein Osei	6-4	240	Romeoville, IL

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Larry Foote	6-2	225	Detroit-Pershing, MI
Deante Gribby	5-9	170	Omaha-Central, NE
DuJuan Groce	5-10	175	Lakewood-St. Edwards, OH
Sergio Lund	5-11	175	Palatine, IL
Brian Taylor	6-1	200	Addison Trail, IL

PLACEKICKERS

Preston Gruening	5-10	165	Schofield-D.C. Everest, WI
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ATHLETES

Josh Krieder	6-1	190	Massillon, OH
Richard Pickens	5-10	165	Chicago-Robeson, IL

TOP BLUE CHIPS EASTERN REGION

By Position

QUARTERBACKS

Bob Barton	6-3	170	Concord-Carlisle, MA
Will Driscoll	6-3	195	Fairport, NY
Shawn O'Conner	6-5	225	Hackensack, NJ
Matt Senneca	6-5	215	Allentown-C. Cath., PA
Brian St. Pierre	6-4	195	Danvers-St. John, PA

RUNNING BACKS

Kyma Dickinson	6-3	184	Lackawanna, NY
Arlen Harris	5-10	190	Downingtown, PA
James Howard	6-1	170	Camden-Catholic, NJ
Terrance Howard	6-2	195	Mt. Holly-Rancocas, NJ
Andre Johnson	5-11	210	Hempstead, NY
Ian Johnson	6-2	195	Coatesville, PA
Adonis Kinsey	6-3	185	Dewitt-Jamesville Dewitt, NY
Robert Lavender	5-10	180	Brooklyn-Jay, NY
Eric McCoo	5-11	190	Little River-Red Bank, NJ
Latroy Oliver	5-9	185	Hartford-Weaver, CT
Marc Riley	6-3	196	Middle Island-Longwood, NY
Brandon Williams	6-0	200	New Kensington-Valley, PA

WIDE RECEIVERS

Mark Lester	6-3	190	Harrisburg, PA
Jeff Miller	6-4	210	W. Orange-Seton Hall, NJ
Aaron Slocum	5-11	180	Erie-McDowell, PA
Marquise Walker	6-4	195	Syracuse-Henninger, NY

TIGHT ENDS

Brad Cusick	6-4	240	Marlton-Cherokee, NJ
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OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Gus Felder	6-6	270	Berwick, PA
Joe Hayes	6-7	310	Mt. Holly-Rancocas, NJ
Ed Johnson	6-7	285	Newton-Council Rock, PA
David Jorgensen	6-5	250	Avon-Old Farm, CT
Jim Kennedy	6-5	310	Yonkers-Roosevelt, NY
Joe Lardino	6-5	300	Parlin-Sayreville, NJ
Joe Manganello	6-4	280	Pittsburgh-Plum, PA
Ryan Scarolla	6-5	305	Murrysville-Franklin Reg., PA
Matt Schmitt	6-5	275	Allison Park-Hampton, PA
Chris Smith	6-5	280	Bronx-Lehman, NY

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Dave Armstrong	6-3	250	Doylestown-C. Bucks West, PA
James Burrell	6-3	250	Norristown, PA
Antonio Garay	6-4	260	Rahway, NJ
Damien Hendricks	6-4	265	Millville, NJ
Lance Nimmo	6-6	250	New Castle-Laurel, PA
Stewart Oakes	6-3	230	Stamford-K.L.H.T., CT
Stewart Oakes	6-3	230	Stamford-K.L.H.T., CT

LINEBACKERS

Sean Berton	6-5	220	Greensburg-Hempfield, PA
Howard Clark	6-2	215	Pennsauken, NJ
Victor Hobson	6-2	225	Philadelphia-St. Joe Prep, PA
Rob Kolaczynski	6-2	230	Canonsburg-Canon Mcmillan, PA
Damian Mincey	6-3	240	Passaic, NJ
Brad Tysarczyk	6-4	215	Pittsburgh-Penn Hills, PA
Greg White	6-3	225	Newark-Shabazz, NJ

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Vin Circiu	6-2	210	Montvale-St. Joe's, NJ
Joe Haro	5-11	175	Clifton, NJ
Maurice McClain	6-0	175	Elizabeth, NJ
Jermaine Slade	6-1	180	Philadelphia-St. Joe Prep, PA
Ziyier Walker	6-0	195	Paterson-Catholic, NJ

TOP BLUE CHIPS SOUTHEAST REGION

By Position

QUARTERBACKS

Nick Hebble	6-4	210	Hazelhurst-Jeff Davis, GA
Joey Mattheus	6-2	185	Sevierville, TN
Tyler Watts	6-3	200	Pelham, AL

RUNNING BACKS

Darvion Bracy	5-11	175	Jacksonville-Trinity Christian, FL
Marvin Constant	6-1	235	Tuscaloosa-Central, AL
Nick Davis	5-10	175	Pompano Beach-Ely, FL
Earnest Graham	5-11	208	Cape Coral-Mariner, FL
Richard McNabb	5-9	180	Ft. Walton Beach, FL
Edward Prather	6-1	180	Falkner, MS
Syniker Taylor	6-2	195	Gulfport, MS

WIDE RECEIVERS

Sam Collins	6-2	180	Fayette, AL
Broderick Nelson	6-2	190	Hollywood-S. Broward, FL

TIGHT ENDS

Ryan Shealy	6-6	245	Ft. Lauderdale-Gibbons, FL
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OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Gerry Byrd	6-7	270	Stone Mountain, GA
Aaron Deal	6-7	280	Ft. Walton Bch.-Choctaw, FL
Sam Forehand	6-7	315	Vancele, MS
Scott Kuhnhein	6-5	260	Ft. Thomas-Highlands, KY
Will Ofenheuse	6-7	305	Martin, TN
Dwight Slater	6-5	265	Miami-Southridge, FL
Jon Stinchcomb	6-7	275	Lilburn-Parkview, GA
Brett Williams	6-5	290	Kissimmee-Osceola, FL
Chad Young	6-6	290	Dalton-NW Whitfield, GA

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

John Henderson	6-7	265	Nashville-Pearl Cohn, TN
Dennis Johnson	6-7	256	Harrodsburg, KY
Terry Jones	6-4	245	Tuscaloosa-Central, AL
Rasheed Moore	6-4	270	Huntsville-Johnson, AL
Kindell Moorehead	6-4	262	Memphis-Melrose, TN
Osa Nosa	6-4	310	Homestead-S. Dade, FL
Chris Reynolds	6-3	270	Tallahassee-Lincoln, FL
Kenny Sears	6-4	245	Montgomery-Lee, AL
Terin Smith	6-4	220	Folkston-Charlton Co., GA

LINEBACKERS

John Brown	6-3	220	Lakeland, FL
Charles Grant	6-4	230	Fayetteville-Fayette Co., GA
Bernard Jackson	6-3	252	Louis-St. Xavier, KY
Roderick Jones	6-2	220	Prichard-Vigor, AL
Robert Malone	6-3	215	Prichard-Blount, AL
Jesse Miller	6-3	215	Sanderson-Waco, GA
Arries Monroe	6-3	225	Tallahassee-Godby, FL
Eddie Strong	6-3	210	Batesville-S. Panola, MS
William Witherspoon	6-3	223	Springfield-Rutherford, FL

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Anthony Cobb	6-2	170	Statesboro, GA
Neal Colzie	6-2	180	S. Miami, FL
Robert Cromartie	6-0	180	Atlanta-Douglass, GA

1997 STUDENT ATHLETE AWARDS



1997 Male Student Athlete of the Year

Derek Allan Freeman
Piedmont, Alabama

Attention all middle school football coaches: Don't run the ball in Derek's direction. He is a two-time Northeast Alabama Defensive Player of the Year and set a school-record with 315 career tackles. In addition to his exploits on the gridiron, Derek has been an all-star baseball player six times and a basketball all-star four years.

With a 3.7/4.0 GPA in Advanced Academics, Derek is a member of the Junior Honor Society and has been class president three years. A participant on the Piedmont Middle School Debate Team and in the D.A.R.E. program, Derek is a two-time essay contest winner and 1996 Science Fair winner.



1997 Female Student Athlete of the Year

Stephanie Suzanne Garner
Virden, Illinois

Stephanie is probably accustomed to the number one. It keeps popping up all over the place. Stephanie was ranked No. 1 in her class of 75 with a GPA of 4.917/5.000. She has also earned high academic honors each of the past three years.

Stephanie participates in volleyball, track, softball, soccer, golf and gymnastics, but her best sport is basketball. She is the number one single-season scorer in Virden Middle School history, and also holds season records for free throw percentage and three-point shooting. She was MVP of her track team and a softball all-star. For good measure, Stephanie has won nine awards in various gymnastics competitions.

As 1997 Athlon Sports Student Athletes of the Year, Stephanie and Derek will each win a team jacket and team cap, plus an official football, basketball and baseball. We know we can expect more great things in the future from these two fine young people.

Congratulations to our winners, Derek and Stephanie, and to all of those who entered. Selecting just one winner for both boys and girls is an extremely difficult task.

The Athlon Sports Student Athlete Award recognizes extraordinary student athletes who excel both in the classroom and in athletics. Judging criteria includes academic achievement, athletic participation and awards and community service.



Army Football

Assistant Coach of the Year

ply, the man can coach offensive execution.

"I am honored," notes the affable Gregory. "I believe Bob Sutton and his staff deserve a lot of credit for this too."

Modesty aside, Gregory admits he submitted his best coaching job to date in 1996, when Army ranked 1st and 17th nationally in rushing and total offense respectively. One of the highlights for Gregory was the Cadets' low rate of turnovers and penalties, an Army trademark.

"We're sticklers for not turning the ball over and we will not beat ourselves," he says of his coaching philosophies. "We are going to be a tough, hard-nosed, attacking team. And we are going to run the football."

Expanding upon these ideas, Gregory says, "We feel that when we are even physically with an opponent, we've got a chance to wear them down because of our style of play. And when we are the underdog, we've got a chance to stay in the game and win late."

Gregory, who enters his ninth year as offensive coordinator and seventh as associate head coach, chuckles at the mention of the Army wishbone.

"We are nowhere close to a wishbone team and haven't been for years," he says. "If I had to describe our offense, I would say it is an option/power/pass-from-multiple-formations offense. It's a conglomeration."

Interestingly, because of the run-dominated attack Gregory helps Sutton oversee, there have not been as many head coaching job offers as would be received by an associate head coach in a different system.

"I've had a few offers but with this background it is difficult to move up," he says. "Some places won't even consider running the option. I'm not as hot a commodity as I might be under different circumstances."

"I do want to be a head football coach, but it must be the right situation," Gregory adds. "I am very happy here. This is a great place to coach and I know you don't coach at one place while you're looking for the next place."

Gregory knows that when his time to

lead a program comes, he will be able to make the adjustments. He's already done so.

"During the past few years, we felt defenses were catching up to us so we made some changes," Gregory explains. "The option allows you to spread the field and throw. I do feel I now know a lot about the option, and the smart people in college football know how you can coach. I'm not going to beat anybody's door down looking for a head coaching job."

Gregory stresses that Sutton, who captured last season's Bobby Dodd Coach of the Year award, has allowed for great flexibility and creativity.

"Bob is a tremendous motivator of players and assistants," he says. "He has given me great freedom. I've watched him grow (since he arrived in 1983).

"Bob is very demanding and intense, but he never berates you," the coach continues. "I couldn't work for a better person."

Prior to Sutton's elevation to head coach in 1991, Gregory worked under Ed Cavanaugh (1982) and Jim Young (1983-90).

"It was a natural progression," Gregory recalls. "I was locked into a 3-year stint when I arrived. Things worked out with Jim. I worked my way through the system."

Now Gregory prepares to work his way through the 1997 season sans the key player in the 1996 Army offense: quarterback Ronnie McAda.

As for 1998 (Army's first season in C-USA) and beyond, Gregory cannot hide his excitement. He credits academy superintendent Lt. Gen. Daniel W. Christman and athletic director Al Vanderbush for landing Army in a league that has the potential to be part of a national playoff down the road.

"Conference USA is already an excellent conference," Gregory says. "All the programs are on the rise. We've played Louisville, Tulane, Memphis and East Carolina, so we know what this will be about."

"It's a defensive conference which, to me, is indicative of a conference with great coaches." ■

In this era of corporate downsizing, self-employment and ever-decreasing loyalty from both employer and employee, it is unusual to find a young man who has worked 15 years for one operation.

In college football, to find an assistant coach 45 or younger (or any age for that matter) who has been with one program 15 years seems almost impossible, outside of Penn State anyway.

There is one, however. And he is Athlon Sports' Assistant Coach of the Year.

At 24, Greg Gregory began his coaching career at Army in 1982 as a part-time assistant coach after a brief stint at the University of Virginia. At the time, he had no idea he would still be toiling at West Point in 1997. He is now the program's associate head coach/offensive coordinator.

Gregory's dedication to the Cadet football program alone would merit him consideration for this award. As would the key role he played in helping Army head coach Bob Sutton oversee the outstanding 10-2 team of 1996. Furthermore, Gregory is a great pick thanks to his long-running, behind-the-scenes support of academy officials' efforts to find Army football a league home, which finally happened last March when the school joined Conference USA.

The main reason Athlon Sports has chosen Gregory, however, is because, very sim-

1996 Conference Reviews

ACC

TOTAL OFFENSE

School	Plays	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Florida State	759	4499	5.9	47	409.0
Virginia	755	4230	5.6	28	384.5
North Carolina	829	4043	4.9	40	367.6
N.C. State	790	3884	4.9	27	353.1
Clemson	725	3758	5.2	27	341.6

TOTAL DEFENSE

School	Plays	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
North Carolina	660	2482	3.8	12	225.6
Florida State	776	2524	3.3	14	229.5
Virginia	790	3251	4.1	20	295.5
Maryland	763	3520	4.6	28	320.0
Clemson	736	3779	5.1	25	343.6

RETURNING LEADERS

PASSING

Player, School	Cl.	Cmp.	Att.	Int.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Rating Points
Dan Kendra, Florida State	Fr.	46	89	2	51.69	665	9	143.3
Chris Keldorf, North Carolina	Jr.	201	338	5	59.47	2347	23	137.3
Thad Busby, Florida State	Jr.	134	244	12	54.92	1866	16	131.0
Nealson Greene, Clemson	Jr.	105	199	8	52.76	1380	8	116.2
Joe Hamilton, Georgia Tech	Fr.	108	188	13	57.45	1342	7	115.9

RUSHING

Player, School	Cl.	Car.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Harvey Middleton, Clemson	Jr.	64	804	12.56	3	73.09
Tremayne Stephens, North Carolina State	Jr.	165	771	4.7	5	70.09
C.J. Williams, Georgia Tech	Jr.	174	663	3.8	7	66.30
Letavious Wilks, Duke	Fr.	116	554	4.8	2	50.36
Charlie Rogers, Georgia Tech	So.	115	551	4.8	2	50.09

RECEIVING

Player, School	Cl.	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Harvey Middleton, Georgia Tech	Jr.	64	804	12.56	3	73.09
Thabiti Davis, Wake Forest	Jr.	60	792	13.20	3	72.00
Desmond Clark, Wake Forest	So.	61	782	12.82	6	71.09
L.C. Stevens, North Carolina	So.	44	771	17.52	7	70.09
Germane Crowell, Virginia	Jr.	33	687	68.70	3	20.82

BIG TWELVE

TOTAL OFFENSE

School	Plays	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Texas	858	5525	6.4	52	460.4
Colorado	799	4973	6.2	39	452.1
Texas Tech	845	4731	5.6	38	430.1
Nebraska	913	5069	5.6	59	422.4
Texas A&M	892	4854	5.4	39	404.5

TOTAL DEFENSE

School	Plays	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Nebraska	776	3065	3.9	15	255.4
Kansas St.	792	3279	4.1	19	298.1
Colorado	769	3470	4.5	20	315.5
Texas A&M	843	3944	4.7	30	328.7
Texas Tech	758	3813	5.0	23	346.6

RETURNING LEADERS

PASSING

Player, School	Cl.	Cmp.	Att.	Int.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Rating Points
Richard Walton, Texas	So.	38	62	1	61.29	509	2	137.7
James Brown, Texas	Jr.	151	271	10	55.72	2115	16	133.4
Scott Frost, Nebraska	Jr.	89	176	3	50.57	1285	13	132.9
Jeff Watson, Baylor	Jr.	67	127	3	52.76	858	10	130.8
Matt Johnner, Kansas	Jr.	96	185	4	51.89	1232	10	121.3

RUSHING

Player, School	Cl.	Car.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Ricky Williams, Texas	So.	197	1265	6.4	12	115.0
DeMond Parker, Oklahoma	Fr.	180	1184	6.6	10	107.6
Ahman Green, Nebraska	So.	155	917	5.9	7	91.7
Mike Lawrence, Kansas State	Jr.	209	982	4.7	10	89.3
Herchell Troutman, Colorado	Jr.	193	804	4.2	4	80.4

RECEIVING

Player, School	Cl.	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Phil Savoy, Colorado	Jr.	43	652	15.16	3	59.3
Alonzo Mayes, Oklahoma State	Jr.	30	512	17.07	3	51.2
Stephen Alexander, Oklahoma	Jr.	22	438	19.91	2	48.7
Donnie Hart, Texas Tech	So.	21	457	21.76	4	45.7

BIG EAST

TOTAL OFFENSE

School	Plays	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Miami	777	4605	5.9	44	418.6
Virginia Tech	772	4587	5.9	46	417.0
Syracuse	757	4426	5.9	53	402.4
Boston College	922	4253	4.6	30	354.4
West Virginia	779	3629	4.7	31	329.5

TOTAL DEFENSE

School	Plays	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
West Virginia	712	2392	3.4	17	217.5
Syracuse	725	2875	4.0	24	261.4
Miami	705	3046	4.3	25	276.9
Virginia Tech	769	3477	4.5	21	316.1
Temple	739	4359	5.9	49	396.3

RETURNING LEADERS

PASSING

Player, School	Cl.	Cmp.	Att.	Int.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Rating Points
Ryan Clement, Miami	Jr.	148	246	6	60.16	1983	18	147.1
Donovan McNabb, Syracuse	So.	118	215	9	54.88	1776	19	145.1
Pat Bonner, Temple	So.	27	56	3	48.21	388	2	107.5
Matt Hasselbeck, Boston College	Jr.	171	330	9	51.82	1990	9	106.0
Matt Lytle, Pittsburgh	So.	105	214	6	49.07	1249	8	104.8

RUSHING

Player, School	Cl.	Car.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Omari Walker, Boston College	Jr.	261	1199	4.6	13	99.92
Ken Oxendine, Virginia Tech	Jr.	150	890	5.9	13	98.89
Amos Zereoue, West Virginia	Fr.	201	972	4.8	9	97.20
Billy West, Pittsburgh	Jr.	145	687	4.7	3	62.45
Dyral McMillan, Miami (Fla.)	So.	103	560	5.4	4	50.91

RECEIVING

Player, School	Cl.	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
David Saunders, West Virginia	So.	67	913	13.63	4	83.00
Jake Hoffart, Pittsburgh	Jr.	39	667	17.10	5	60.64
Anthony DiCosmo, Boston College	Fr.	36	632	17.56	1	52.67
Troy Kersey, Temple	Jr.	28	543	19.39	3	49.36
Magic Benton, Miami (Fla.)	So.	36	514	14.28	4	46.73

BIG TEN

TOTAL OFFENSE

School	Plays	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Ohio State	883	5285	6.0	55	440.4
Michigan State	918	4795	5.2	42	399.5
Wisconsin	847	5025	5.9	43	386.5
Penn State	914	4985	5.5	44	383.5
Northwestern	866	4590	5.3	41	382.5

TOTAL DEFENSE

School	Plays	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Ohio State	783	2952	3.8	14	246.0
Michigan	844	3557	4.2	15	296.4
Iowa	825	3697	4.5	28	308.1
Michigan State	796	3809	4.8	34	317.4
Penn State	951	4489	4.7	22	345.5

RETURNING LEADERS

PASSING

Player, School	Cl.	Cmp.	Att.	Int.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Rating Points
Joe Germaine, Ohio State	Jr.	71	130	4	54.62	1062	13	150.1
Stanley Jackson, Ohio State	So.	81	151	5	53.64	1239	11	140.0
Matt Sherman, Iowa	Jr.	145	248	10	58.47	1792	12	127.1
Scott Dreisbach, Michigan	So.	149	269	9	55.39	2025	12	126.7
Cory Sauter, Minnesota	Jr.	200	352	11	56.82	2578	14	125.2

RUSHING

Player, School	Cl.	Car.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Ron Dayne, Wisconsin	Fr.	295	1863	6.3	18	155.25
Pepe Pearson, Ohio State	Jr.	286	1373	4.8	17	124.82
Alex Smith, Indiana	Jr.	292	1248	4.3	8	124.80
Robert Holcombe, Illinois	Jr.	260	1281	4.9	12	116.45
Curtis Enis, Penn State	So.	224	1210	5.4	13	110.00

RECEIVING

Player, School	Cl.	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
D'Wayne Bates, Northwestern	Jr.	65	1099	16.91	11	99.91
Ryan Thelwell, Minnesota	Jr.	54	1051	19.46	5	95.55
Joe Jurevicius, Penn State	Jr.	41	869	21.20	4	79.00
Tutu Atwell, Minnesota	Jr.	62	822	13.26	6	74.73
Tai Streets, Michigan	So.	42	718	17.10	2	65.27

1996 Conference Reviews

PAC TEN

TOTAL OFFENSE

School	Plays	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Arizona St.	874	5417	6.2	54	492.5
California	864	5034	5.8	43	457.6
Oregon	839	4939	5.9	47	449.0
Washington	828	4527	5.5	48	411.5
UCLA	824	4251	5.2	39	386.5

TOTAL DEFENSE

School	Plays	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Arizona State	774	3352	4.3	24	304.7
Washington	715	3539	4.9	27	320.8
Stanford	817	3894	4.8	27	354.0
USC	891	4367	4.9	31	363.9
Washington St.	855	4004	4.7	36	364.0

RETURNING LEADERS

PASSING

Player, School	Cl.	Cmp.	Att.	Int.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Rating Points
Keith Smith, Arizona	Fr.	117	193	6	60.62	1450	11	136.3
Brock Huard, Washington	Fr.	108	217	5	49.77	1678	13	129.9
Ryan Leaf, Washington State	So.	194	373	12	52.01	2811	21	127.5
Chad Hutchinson, Stanford	So.	190	312	12	60.90	2134	10	121.2
Cade McNown, UCLA	So.	176	336	16	52.38	2424	12	115.2

RUSHING

Player, School	Cl.	Car.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Michael Black, Washington State	Jr.	182	948	5.2	8	94.80
Skip Hicks, UCLA	Jr.	224	1034	4.6	17	94.00
Brandon Willis, California	So.	187	701	3.7	5	63.73
Lavale Woods, Southern Cal	Jr.	119	601	5.1	7	50.08
Keith Smith, Arizona	Fr.	136	546	4.0	8	49.64

RECEIVING

Player, School	Cl.	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Bobby Shaw, California	Jr.	58	888	80.73	9	15.31
Damon Griffin, Oregon	Jr.	43	711	71.10	7	16.53
Tony Gonzalez, California	Jr.	44	699	63.55	5	15.89
Kevin McKenzie, Washington State	Jr.	31	626	56.91	2	20.19
Jerome Pathon, Washington	Jr.	41	618	56.18	7	15.07

CONFERENCE USA

TOTAL OFFENSE

School	Plays	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
East Carolina	835	4820	5.8	39	438.2
Houston	753	4457	5.9	43	405.2
Cincinnati	745	3551	4.8	26	322.8
Louisville	785	3468	4.4	20	315.3
Tulane	717	3184	4.4	20	289.5

TOTAL DEFENSE

School	Plays	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Louisville	765	2594	3.4	20	235.8
Cincinnati	759	3061	4.0	25	278.3
East Carolina	776	3719	4.8	21	338.1
Southern Miss	774	3876	5.0	29	352.4
Memphis	792	3971	5.0	24	361.0

RETURNING LEADERS

PASSING

Player, School	Cl.	Cmp.	Att.	Int.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Rating Points
Lee Roberts, Southern Miss	So.	86	142	7	60.56	1296	12	155.3
Dan Gonzalez, East Carolina	Sr.	90	172	6	52.3	1322	7	123.3
Chad Plummer, Cincinnati	So.	102	198	8	51.52	1327	8	111.4
Chris Redman, Louisville	Fr.	144	272	9	52.94	1773	8	110.8
Shaun King, Tulane	So.	132	273	7	48.35	1574	8	101.3

RUSHING

Player, School	Cl.	Car.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Scott Harley, East Carolina	Jr.	307	1745	5.7	14	158.6
Eric Booth, Southern Miss	Jr.	160	699	4.4	7	77.7
Daryl Royal, Cincinnati	Jr.	167	853	5.1	3	77.6
Ketric Sanford, Houston	Fr.	146	747	5.1	7	67.9
Jamaican Darte, Tulane	So.	138	583	4.2	3	58.3

RECEIVING

Player, School	Cl.	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Larry Shannon, East Carolina	Sr.	39	834	21.4	9	75.8
Miguel Montano, Louisville	Jr.	48	602	12.5	1	54.7
Richie Floyd, Memphis	So.	43	600	14.0	1	54.6
Ibn Green, Louisville	Fr.	47	535	11.4	5	48.6
Sherrad Gideon, Southern Miss	Fr.	33	500	15.2	1	45.5

SOUTHEASTERN

TOTAL OFFENSE

School	Plays	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Florida	854	6047	7.1	76	503.9
Tennessee	795	4779	6.0	52	434.5
LSU	738	4399	6.0	44	399.9
Auburn	785	4261	5.4	47	387.4
Georgia	772	4016	5.2	29	365.1

TOTAL DEFENSE

School	Plays	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Tennessee	708	2602	3.7	19	236.5
Alabama	711	3066	4.3	22	255.5
Florida	826	3373	4.1	26	281.1
South Carolina	706	3463	4.9	31	314.8
Vanderbilt	786	3499	4.5	28	318.1

RETURNING LEADERS

PASSING

Player, School	Cl.	Cmp.	Att.	Int.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Rating Points
Peyton Manning, Tennessee	Jr.	243	380	12	63.95	3287	20	147.7
Herb Tyler, LSU	So.	109	187	8	58.29	1688	7	137.9
Dameyune Craig, Auburn	Jr.	169	310	10	54.52	2297	16	127.3
Anthony Wright, South Carolina	So.	131	244	6	53.69	1850	8	123.3
Freddie Kitchens, Alabama	Jr.	133	257	13	51.75	1860	11	116.6

RUSHING

Player, School	Cl.	Car.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Kevin Faulk, LSU	So.	248	1282	5.2	13	116.5
Dennis Riddle, Alabama	Jr.	225	1037	4.6	10	94.3
Robert Edwards, Georgia	Jr.	184	800	4.3	9	72.7
John Avery, Mississippi	Jr.	181	788	4.4	5	71.6
Derick Logan, Kentucky	Fr.	190	700	3.7	5	63.6

RECEIVING

Player, School	Cl.	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Hines Ward, Georgia	Jr.	52	900	81.82	4	17.3
Anthony Eubanks, Arkansas	Jr.	51	809	73.55	5	15.9
Marcus Nash, Tennessee	Jr.	53	688	62.55	3	13.0
Tyrone Goodson, Auburn	Jr.	36	643	58.45	6	17.9
Peerless Price, Tennessee	So.	32	609	55.36	3	19.0

WAC

TOTAL OFFENSE

School	Plays	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Wyoming	904	5987	6.6	58	498.9
BYU	1004	6692	6.7	73	478.0
San Diego St.	813	5241	6.5	56	476.5
Colorado St.	838	5507	6.6	51	458.9
Air Force	799	4828	6.0	47	438.9

TOTAL DEFENSE

School	Plays	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
BYU	939	4428	4.7	32	316.3
UTEP	732	3735	5.1	37	339.6
Air Force	676	3888	5.8	28	353.5
Utah	823	4059	4.9	33	369.0
TCU	744	4177	5.6	38	379.7

RETURNING LEADERS

PASSING

Player, School	Cl.	Cmp.	Att.	Int.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Rating Points
Moses Moreno, Colorado State	Jr.	193	335	12	57.61	2921	18	141.4
Dan O'Dell, San Jose State	Jr.	49	94	2	52.13	709	5	128.8
Jon Denton, UNLV	Fr.	277	506	16	54.74	3591	25	124.3
Jeff Dover, TCU	Fr.	129	221	9	58.37	1455	9	119.0
Fred Taylor, TCU	Jr.	44	74	1	59.46	414	2	112.7

RUSHING

Player, School	Cl.	Car.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Damon Washington, Colorado State	So.	162	1075	6.6	8	107.5
Michael Pittman, Fresno State	Jr.	214	1132	5.3	13	102.9
Lennox Gordon, New Mexico	So.	196	1008	5.1	9	91.6
Donte Womack, SMU	Jr.	160	887	5.5	5	80.6
Reggie Williams, Tulsa	Jr.	152	759	5.0	4	75.9

RECEIVING

Player, School	Cl.	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Will Blackwell, San Diego State	Jr.	60	1000	16.7	11	111.1
Geoff Turner, Colorado State	Jr.	52	921	17.7	6	76.8
Damon Williams, UNLV	So.	54	900	16.7	1	75.0
Wes Caswell, Tulsa	Jr.	49	817	16.7	5	74.3
Carlos Baker, UNLV	So.	71	887	12.5	7	73.9

1996 division 1-A leaders

Team

TOTAL OFFENSE

Team	Plays	Yds.	YDSPG
Nevada	915	5800	527.27
Florida	854	6047	503.92
Wyoming	905	5987	498.92
Arizona State	874	5417	492.45
Idaho	848	5294	481.27
Brigham Young	1,004	6692	478.00
Central Michigan	871	5252	477.45
San Diego St.	803	5241	476.45
Utah State	835	5110	464.55
Notre Dame	817	5096	463.27

SCORING OFFENSE

Team	Games	Pts.	Avg.
Florida	12	559	46.6
Nevada	11	497	45.2
Arizona State	11	471	42.8
Nebraska	12	512	42.7
BYU	14	571	40.8
Ohio State	11	435	39.5
San Diego St.	11	428	38.9
Florida State	11	426	38.7
Wyoming	12	464	38.7
Syracuse	11	407	37.0

RUSHING OFFENSE

Team	Carries	Yds.	YDSPG
Army	740	3812	346.5
Air Force	618	3618	328.9
Rice	637	3360	305.5
Nebraska	691	3503	291.9
Navy	628	3120	283.6
Ohio	685	3286	273.8
Texas Tech	573	3008	273.5
Notre Dame	567	2965	269.5
Missouri	553	2758	250.7
Arizona State	538	2734	248.5

PASSING OFFENSE

Team	Att.	Cmp.	Yds.	YDSPG
Wyoming	486	299	4310	359.2
Nevada	480	307	3907	355.2
La. Tech	475	279	3778	343.5
Idaho	460	270	3772	342.9
Florida	412	234	4007	333.9
California	427	253	3536	321.5
Utah State	422	233	3493	317.5
Tennessee	399	255	3396	308.7
UNLV	530	287	3685	307.1
Colorado	390	221	3338	303.5

TOTAL DEFENSE

Team	Plays	Yds.	YDSPG
West Virginia	712	2392	217.5
North Carolina	660	2482	225.6
Florida State	776	2524	229.5
Louisville	765	2594	235.8
Tennessee	708	2602	236.5
Ohio State	707	2676	243.3
Nebraska	776	3065	255.4
Alabama	711	3067	255.6
Army	626	2819	256.3
Syracuse	725	2875	261.4

SCORING DEFENSE

Teams	Games	Pts.	Avg.
North Carolina	11	110	10.0
Ohio State	11	114	10.4
Florida State	11	122	11.1
West Va.	11	136	12.4
Nebraska	12	153	12.8
Tennessee	11	157	14.3
Alabama	12	181	15.1
Michigan	11	167	15.2
Virginia Tech	11	168	15.3
Miami (Ohio)	11	168	15.3

RUSHING DEFENSE

Team	Car.	Yds.	YDSPG
Florida St.	418	649	59.0
West Virginia	364	677	61.5
North Carolina	334	813	73.9
Louisville	437	892	81.1
Nebraska	447	1006	83.8
Army	325	979	89.0
Alabama	392	1110	92.5
So. Miss.	384	1069	97.2
Ohio State	398	1074	97.6
Arizona State	407	1078	98.0

TURNOVER MARGIN

Team	Turnovers Gained			Turnovers Lost			Margin
	Fum.	Int.	Total	Fum.	Int.	Total	
North Caro.	14	20	34	6	12	20	2.00
Auburn	14	22	36	9	13	22	1.27
So. Miss.	16	18	34	5	15	20	1.27
West Virginia	8	16	24	4	6	10	1.27
East Carolina	23	13	36	6	16	22	1.27
Ohio State	10	20	30	7	9	16	1.27
Arizona	13	16	29	9	7	16	1.18
Navy	15	13	28	10	6	16	1.09
Kansas	11	12	23	4	8	12	1.00
Bowling Green	13	13	26	1	14	15	1.00

NET PUNTING

Team	Punts	Avg.	No. Ret.	Yds. Ret.	Net Avg.
San Diego St.	48	46.5	17	77	44.9
Wyoming	39	45.2	8	77	43.2
Vanderbilt	79	45.9	35	250	42.7
Iowa State	51	45.3	18	168	42.0
Baylor	60	46.3	27	269	41.9
Ball State	59	45.8	20	261	41.4
Southern Cal	67	44.9	29	244	41.2
Nebraska	47	43.9	26	133	41.0
Arizona	63	43.0	20	160	40.5
Mississippi St.	68	43.1	20	199	40.1

PUNT RETURNS

Team	No.	Yds.	Avg.
Kansas	11	214	19.5
Notre Dame	37	600	16.2
Iowa	35	565	16.1
Ball State	13	209	16.1
BYU	27	410	15.2
LSU	25	371	14.8
San Diego St.	33	482	14.6
Southern Miss.	24	339	14.1
Fresno State	25	341	13.6
Bowling Green	20	269	13.4

KICKOFF RETURNS

Team	No.	Yds.	Avg.
Miami (Fla.)	23	665	28.9
Arizona St.	25	717	28.7
UTEP	30	819	27.3
Miami (Ohio)	28	714	25.5
SMU	37	938	25.4
Nebraska	22	554	25.2
So. Miss.	34	831	24.4
Kansas State	20	487	24.4
Alabama	22	532	24.2
BYU	32	772	24.1

PASSING DEFENSE

Team	Att.	Cmp.	Yds.	TD	Int.	Points
Ohio State	309	140	1602	5	20	81.3
Miami (Ohio)	260	104	1323	6	11	81.9
North Carolina	326	148	1669	7	20	83.2
Kansas St.	299	126	1509	9	13	85.8
West Va.	348	157	1715	10	16	86.8
Florida St.	358	162	1875	9	11	91.4
Nebraska	329	149	2059	8	23	91.9
Tennessee	285	134	1434	12	14	93.4
Alabama	319	132	1957	11	17	93.6
Notre Dame	292	131	1656	9	13	93.8

Individual

PASSING EFFICIENCY

(MIN. 15 ATT. PER GAME)	Att.	Cmp.	Yds.	TD	RATING
Player and School					POINTS
Steve Sarkisian, BYU	367	252	3777	32	177.3
Billy Blanton, San Diego St.	344	227	3221	29	169.6
Danny Wuerffel, Florida	325	187	3224	33	167.6
Josh Wallwork, Wyoming	424	270	3808	31	157.8
John Dutton, Nevada	334	222	2750	22	153.6
Pat Barnes, California	420	250	3499	31	150.1
Peyton Manning, Tennessee	380	243	3287	20	147.7
Mike Fouts, Utah	302	177	2526	21	147.2
Ryan Clement, Miami (Fla.)	246	148	1983	18	147.1
Brent Baldwin, Ball State	205	121	1703	14	146.5

INTERCEPTIONS

Player and School	G	No.	Yds.	TD	IPG
Dre Bly, North Carolina	11	11	141	1	1.00
Brian Lee, Wyoming	11	8	68	0	.73
Kim Herring, Penn State	12	7	64	0	.58
Chris McAlister, Arizona	11	6	103	1	.55
Damien Robinson, Iowa	11	6	99	0	.55
Deimonico Montgomery, Houston	11	6	87	0	.55
Harold Lusk, Utah	11	6	86	0	.55
Ramos McDonald, New Mexico	11	6	78	1	.55
Patrick Surtain, Southern Miss	11	6	77	0	.55
Sam Madison, Louisville	11	6	50	1	.55

RUSHING

Player and School	Car.	Yds.	Avg.	YDSPG
Troy Davis, Iowa State	402	2185	5.4	198.64
Byron Hanspard, Texas Tech	39	2084	6.1	189.45
Scott Harley, East Carolina	307	1745	5.7	158.64
Ron Dayne, Wisconsin	95	1863	6.3	155.25
Silas Massey, Central Michigan	312	1544	4.9	154.40
Corey Dillon, Washington	271	1555	5.7	141.36
Darnell Autry, Northwestern	263	1386	5.3	138.60
David Thompson, Oklahoma State	293	1524	5.2	138.55
Beau Morgan, Air Force	225	1494	6.6	135.82
June Henley, Kansas	302	1349	4.5	134.90

SCORING

Player and School	TD	XP	FG	Pts.	PTPG
Corey Dillon, Washington	23	0	0	138	12.55
Troy Davis, Iowa State	21	0	0	126	11.45
Calvin Branch, Colorado State	22	0	0	132	11.00
Terry Battle, Arizona State	20	0	0	120	10.91
Skip Hicks, UCLA	20	0	0	120	10.91
June Henley, Kansas	18	0	0	108	10.80
Damon Shea, Nevada	0	55	20	115	10.45
Beau Morgan, Air Force	18	0	0	108	9.82
Sedrick Irvin, Michigan State	18	0	0	108	9.82
Silas Massey, Central Michigan	16	2	0	98	9.80

TOTAL OFFENSE

Player and School	Plays	Yds.	YDSPG
Josh Wallwork, Wyoming	484	3911	355.55
Ryan Fien, Idaho	514	3597	327.00
Pat Barnes, California	506	3416	310.55
Jon Denton, UNLV	594	3629	302.42
Jason Martin, La. Tech	440	3321	301.91
Billy Blanton, San Diego St.	414	3161	287.36
Peyton Manning, Tennessee	422	3156	286.91
Steve Sarkisian, BYU	442	3726	286.62
Koy Detmer, Colorado	399	3150	286.36
Danny Wuerffel, Florida	374	3135	285.00

PUNTING

(MIN 3.6 PUNTS PER GAME)	No.	Avg.
Player and School		
Bill Marinangel, Vanderbilt	77	46.57
Noel Prefontaine, San Diego St.	48	46.54
Andy Russ, Mississippi State	53	46.53
Ty Atteberry, Baylor	60	46.35
Tucker Phillips, Rice	53	45.91
Brad Maynard, Ball State	59	45.85
Jim Wren, Southern Cal	66	45.55
Marc Harris, Iowa State	51	45.33
Ryan Longwell, California	60	45.23
John Krueger, Duke	58	45.16

RECEIVING

Player and School	G	Ct.	Yds.	YDSPG
Marcus Harris, Wyoming	11	103	1532	139.27
Chad Mackey, Louisiana Tech	11	85	1466	133.27
Geoffery Noisy, Nevada	11	98	1435	130.45
Nakia Jenkins, Utah State	11	82	1397	127.00
Reggie Allen, Central Michigan	10	66	1229	122.90
Brian Roberson, Fresno State	11	78	1248	113.45
Will Blackwell, San Diego St.	9	60	1000	111.11
Eugene Baker, Kent	11	69	1215	110.45
Antonio Wilson, Idaho	11	65	1203	109.36
Brandon Stokley, SW Louisiana	11	81	1160	105.45

Are You a Football Genius?



Henry Ordosogitia

See if you can answer the following 15 questions. Then check the answers below for your score and rate yourself as follows:

12-15 correct: College football genius
9-11 correct: Knowledgeable
6-8 correct: Well-versed
3-5 correct: Conversant
0-2 correct: Beginner

1 How many more victories does 70-year-old Joe Paterno need to pass Bear Bryant for the most in Division I-A?

2 Who broke the record for most touchdowns with eight in a single game in 1990, topping the mark set by Arnold "Showboat" Boykin of Ole Miss in 1951?

3 Can you name an NCAA record held by Desmond Howard, 1991 Heisman Trophy winner and Super Bowl XXXI MVP?

4 What caused coach Bear Bryant to present Alabama letters to two members of another team after the season of 1964?

5 Who was the first player from a school west of the Mississippi chosen on Walter Camp's All-America team?

6 Who is the TV football analyst that led his alma mater into the Rose Bowl as an All-America quarterback and beat USC in the 1967 game 14-13?

7 What major school has waited the longest to complete a season — just one — without defeat and without so much as a tie on its record?

8 Who was the last coach to guide his alma mater to the national title?

9 Who was the brilliant athlete that played in the Rose Bowl, the NCAA basketball semifinals and competed in the 1948 Olympic Games (fourth in the high jump)?

10 Who was a head coach the longest, how old was he when he died and what Halls of Fame was he a member of?

11 When was the last time a Big Ten team won the national championship in any poll?

12 Who is the only Heisman Trophy winner since 1967 (other than Danny Wuerffel in 1996) never to play in the NFL?

13 Can you name three of the four American presidents — all Republicans, incidentally — who lettered in college football?

14 In the Cotton Bowl game of Jan. 1, 1942, the winning team gained only 75 yards to 309, completed one pass against 13 and ran just 32 plays to 79. Who won and what was the score?

15 What baseball Hall of Famer (a pitcher who won 373 games) had his college football stadium named for him?

Answers: 1. Paterno needs 35 more wins. Paterno is 289-74-3; Bryant was 323-85-17. 2. Howard Griffith, Illinois vs. Southern Illinois (not a major-college opponent), Sept. 22, 1990. 3. Most consecutive games catching a TD pass in a season, 10 in 1991; and in a career, 12, 1991-92, Michigan. With 1:33 left in the 1964 USC-Notre Dame game, Craig Fertig of the Trojans threw a 15-yard, fourth-down pass to Rod Sherman for the winning TD (20-17) just when the Irish were about to celebrate capturing the national championship. That play gave Alabama the title. Coach Bear Bryant awarded Crimson Tide letters to Fertig and Sherman. 5. Harold "Brick" Muller, California end, 1921. 6. Purdue's Bob Griese, Heisman runner-up. 7. Indiana, no perfect record since it began football in 1885. 8. Florida's Steve Spurrier, 1996. 9. Dwight "Dike" Eddelman, Illinois. 10. Amos Alonzo Stagg, 56 years (Eddie Robinson will have coached Grambling 55 years when he retires after the 1997 season); Stagg died in 1965 at age 102; he was named to the football and basketball Halls of Fame. 11. 1968, Ohio State (10-0). 12. Charlie Ward of Florida State, 1993 Heisman winner who plays for the New York Knicks in the NBA. 13. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Richard M. Nixon, Gerald R. Ford, Ronald W. Reagan. 14. Alabama beat Texas A&M 29-21. Incidentally, the Crimson Tide intercepted seven passes and recovered five A&M fumbles. 15. Christy Mathewson of Bucknell. Mathewson lettered in football, 1898-1900.

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